

## NO “DIS-PUTIN”

### Trump nearly alone in Russia meddling doubts

U.S. President Donald Trump, left, and Russian President Vladimir Putin leave after a press conference after their meeting at the Presidential Palace in Helsinki, Finland, Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press  
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# Amazon's Prime Day runs into early snags

By ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Retail Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Amazon's website ran into some early snags Monday on its much-hyped Prime Day, an embarrassment for the tech company on the shopping holiday it created.

Shoppers clicking on many Prime Day links after the 3 p.m. ET launch in the U.S. got only images of dogs — some quite abashed-looking — with the words, "Uh-oh. Something went wrong on our end." People took to social media to complain that they couldn't order items.

By about 4:30 p.m., many Prime Day links were working, and Amazon said later Monday that it was working to resolve the glitches.

In an email to The Associated Press, it said "many are shopping successfully" and that in the first hour of Prime Day in the U.S., customers ordered more items than in the same time frame last year.

Still, the hiccups could mute sales and send shoppers elsewhere during one of Amazon's busiest sales periods that's also a key time for it to sign up new Prime members. Shoppers have lots of options, as many other chains have offered sales and promotions to try



In this Aug. 3, 2017, file photo, packages pass through a scanner at an Amazon fulfillment center in Baltimore.

to capitalize on the Prime Day spending.

Analyst Sucharita Mulpuru-Kodali at Forrester Research called the glitch a "huge deal."

"This is supposed to be one of their biggest days of the year," she wrote in an email. "I am shocked this caught them off guard. But I guess the lesson is to not have a big unveil during the middle of the day when everyone comes to your site all at once." Amazon, which recently announced that Prime membership

would be getting more expensive, was hoping to lure in shoppers by focusing on new products and having Whole Foods be part of the process. It was also hoping parents would use the deals event to jump start back-to-school shopping. Jason Goldberg, senior vice president of commerce at Publicis.Sapient, noted that the problems could turn off shoppers for a while, particularly those who planned to sign up for Prime membership.

"If you were planning to

find Prime deals to lower the cost of back-to-school (purchases), you're almost certainly going back to your traditional venue of choice," he said.

Goldberg noted that it's easy for Amazon to extend deals on its own devices and brands, but trickier for it to extend deals for its third-party sellers because they signed up for different promotional slots.

While Amazon doesn't disclose sales figures for Prime Day, Deborah Weiswig, CEO of Coresight Re-

search, had estimated that it will generate \$3.4 billion in sales worldwide, up from an estimated \$2.4 billion last year. Prime Day also lasts six hours longer than last year.

Meanwhile, other retailers like Macy's, Nordstrom, Best Buy, Walmart and Target have rolled out their own promotions, said Charlie O'Shea, lead retail analyst at Moody's.

"Brick-and-mortar retailers know that they have little choice but to continue offering their own deep discounts, which is evident in the proliferation of 'Black Friday in July' deals that are being launched earlier each year, as well as various 'price match' offers," he said in a note earlier Monday.

Amazon created Prime Day in 2015 to mark its 20th anniversary, and its success has inspired other e-commerce companies to invent shopping holidays. Online furniture seller Wayfair introduced Way Day in April, becoming its biggest revenue day ever.

Prime Day also usually helps boost the number of Prime memberships. Amazon disclosed for the first time this year that it had more than 100 million paid Prime members worldwide. □

## New California law requires voter data breach reporting

By SOPHIA BOLLAG

**SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP)**

— Journalists, researchers and political campaigns that receive voter data must tell California officials if it may have been stolen under a new law Gov. Jerry Brown announced he signed Monday.

It requires people and organizations that have California voter registration data to report security breaches affecting the storage of that information, which can include names, birth dates and addresses. The law also directs the secretary of state to develop guidelines for how such information should be securely stored. Addition-



This May 4, 2017 file photo shows state Assemblyman Marc Berman, D-Palo Alto, at the Capitol in Sacramento, Calif.

Associated Press

ally, it makes intentionally misinforming a voter about

voting locations, eligibility or times a misdemeanor. Assemblyman Marc Berman wrote the law and said it would improve election security and crack down on misinformation.

"Cyberattacks and deceptive voter misinformation tactics present increasingly sophisticated threats to the integrity of our elections," the Palo Alto Democrat told his Assembly colleagues earlier this month before they voted to pass it.

It passed both chambers of the Legislature with just one "no" vote. Brown, a Democrat, announced he signed the bill the same day Republican

President Donald Trump suggested he believes Russia didn't interfere in the United States' 2016 elections. Trump made the remarks standing alongside Russian President Vladimir Putin after the two leaders met in Helsinki.

U.S. intelligence agencies have determined that Russia meddled in the election to benefit Trump. Last week, a dozen Russian intelligence officers were indicted in connection with hacking the Clinton presidential campaign and the Democratic Party.

Before certifying California's 2018 primary results last week, Secretary of State Alex Padilla said there is no

evidence California's election systems were hacked. However, Padilla stressed the importance of cybersecurity.

"Cyber threats from Russia and others who seek to harm our democracy are very real," Padilla said Friday. "They're not going away."

In the state budget that took effect July 1, Brown and the Legislature included money to create offices focused on election cybersecurity and risk management and \$134 million for new voting equipment. It's the most California has spent on new voting systems in more than a decade. □



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## Wave of condemnation hits Trump after summit with Putin

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — "Bizarre." "Shameful." "Disgraceful."

That's the swift and sweeping condemnation directed at President Donald Trump on Monday after he sided with Russian President Vladimir Putin during a stunning appearance in Helsinki — and that's just from the Republicans.

Lawmakers in both major parties and former intelligence officials appeared shocked, dismayed and uneasy with Trump's suggestion that he believes Putin's denial of interfering in the 2016 elections. It was a remarkable break with U.S. intelligence officials and the Justice Department. And just as alarming for some, Trump also put the two countries on the same footing when casting blame for their strained relations.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., called it "one of the most disgraceful performances by an American president in memory."

Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb., called it "bizarre." Sen. Jeff Flake, R-Ariz., called it "shameful." And Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., tweeted that it was a "bad day for the US."

"This was a very good day for President Putin," said Sen. Bob Corker, R-Tenn., the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee. He said Trump's refusal to condemn Russian interference in the 2016 election makes the U.S. "look like a pushover."

Rep. Will Hurd, R-Texas, said he's seen Russian intelligence manipulate many people in his earlier career as a CIA officer. But, he tweeted, "I never would have thought that the US President would become one of the ones getting



Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., criticizes President Donald Trump's performance during his side-by-side news conference with Russia's Vladimir Putin in Helsinki, as he speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press

played by old KGB hands." House Speaker Paul Ryan weighed in to say there's "no question" that Russia interfered in the 2016 presidential election and "no moral equivalence" between the U.S. and Russia. "The president must appreciate that Russia is not our ally," Ryan, R-Wis., said in a statement. Russia, he said, "remains hostile to our most basic values and ideals."

Much of the Republican rebuke came from lawmakers who have been willing to openly criticize the president, a group that remains a minority in the GOP. Many top Republicans remained on the sidelines after the Justice Department on Friday indicted 12 Russian intelligence officials for election-related hacking. But several Republicans who don't typically buck the president raised concerns, shocked by Monday's performance.

Democrats pleaded with their GOP colleagues who have majority control of Congress to rein in the pres-

ident and become a stronger legislative check on the executive branch.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., the minority leader, says never in the history of the country has an American president supported an adversary the way Trump sided with Putin. He challenged Republicans to move beyond words and confront the president directly by increasing sanctions on Russia and requesting testimony about the summit from Trump administration officials, among other things.

"We need our Republican colleagues to stand up for the good of this country," he said.

And House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said Trump's weakness in front of Putin wasn't just "embarrassing" but also "proves that the Russians have something on the President, personally, financially or politically."

Republicans have been hesitant to fully confront a president who remains

popular among GOP voters back home. But Trump's hold on the GOP is being

put to the test by his willingness to align with Putin, a leader whom Republicans routinely describe as an enemy of the United States.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., repeated his earlier assessment that the Russians are "not our friends." He said he has "complete confidence in our intelligence community and the findings."

The second-ranking Republican, Sen. John Cornyn of Texas, said Trump has a "delicate task" in dealing with Putin, but added that he supports the intelligence community's assessment of election meddling.

Monday's firestorm erupted when Trump, standing side by side with Putin in Helsinki, refused to publicly condemn — or say he believes

— the U.S. assessment that Russia interfered in the 2016 election. Instead, he directed his ire at Democrats and U.S. officials, calling special counsel Robert Mueller's

probe of Russia a "disaster."

Asked if there was anything he thinks Russia should take responsibility for, Trump said, "We're all to blame."

McCain called the summit a "tragic mistake."

Rep. Liz Cheney, R-Wyo., the daughter of former Vice President Dick Cheney, said she is "deeply troubled" by Trump's defense of Putin against U.S. intelligence agencies "and his suggestion of moral equivalence" between the two countries. Even Graham, a sometime Trump ally, called the summit a "missed opportunity by President Trump to firmly hold Russia accountable for 2016 meddling and deliver a strong warning regarding future elections."

While some GOP lawmakers were less strident in their criticism of Trump, their discomfort was clear.

Off Capitol Hill, former intelligence chiefs who served under President Barack Obama were scathing in their criticism. John Brennan, who served as CIA director, called Trump's comments "treasonous."

"Donald Trump's press conference performance in Helsinki rises to & exceeds the threshold of 'high crimes & misdemeanors.' It was nothing short of treasonous. Not only were Trump's comments imbecilic, he is wholly in the pocket of Putin. Republican Patriots: Where are you???" Brennan tweeted.

James Clapper, who was director of national intelligence under Obama, described Trump's comments as "very, very disturbing."

"On the world stage in front of the entire globe the president of the United States essentially capitulated and seems intimidated by Vladimir Putin," Clapper told CNN. □

## Muslim candidates run in record numbers but face backlash

By PHILIP MARCELO and JEFF KAROUR

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) —

A liberal woman of color with zero name recognition and little funding takes down a powerful, long serving congressman from her own political party.

When Tahirah Amatul-Wadud heard about Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's stunning upset over U.S. Rep. Joe Crowley in New York's Democratic primary last month, the first-time candidate saw parallels with her own longshot campaign for Congress in western Massachusetts.

The 44-year-old Muslim, African-American civil rights lawyer, who is taking on a 30-year congressman and ranking Democrat on the influential House Ways and Means Committee, said she wasn't alone, as encouragement, volunteers and donations started pouring in.

"We could barely stay on top of the residual love," said Amatul-Wadud, U.S. Rep. Richard Neal's lone challenger in the state's Sept. 4 Democratic primary. "It sent a message to all of our volunteers, voters and supporters that winning is very possible." From Congress to state legislatures and school boards, Muslim Americans spurred to action by the anti-Muslim policies and rhetoric of President Donald Trump and his supporters are running for elected offices in numbers not seen since before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, say Muslim groups and political observers.

Many, like Amatul-Wadud, hope to ride the surge of progressive activism within the Democratic Party that delivered Ocasio-Cortez's unlikely win and could help propel the Democrats back to power in November.

Still, the path to victory can be tougher for a Muslim American. Some promising campaigns already have fizzled out while many more face strong anti-Muslim backlash.

In Michigan, Democrat candidate for governor Abdul El-Sayed continues

to face unfounded claims from a GOP rival that he has ties to the controversial Muslim Brotherhood,

at least in the post-9/11 era. But recent primaries have whittled the field down to around 50, a number that

El-Sayed, who could become the nation's first Muslim governor.

In Minnesota, the decision

to succeed Democratic Rep. John Conyers, who resigned last year amid allegations of sexual misconduct. Former Obama administration official Fayrouz Saad is also running as a Democrat in the wide open race to succeed Republican Rep. David Trott, who isn't seeking re-election.

Either could become the first Muslim woman elected to Congress, which has only ever had two Muslim members: outgoing Ellison and Rep. Andre Carson, an Indiana Democrat seeking re-election.

Saad, who served most recently as director of Detroit's Office of Immigrant Affairs, recognizes the importance of representing her community in an era of rising Islamophobia.

The 35-year-old broke from the conservative Republican politics of her Lebanese immigrant parents following the 9/11 attacks because she felt Arabs and Muslims were unfairly targeted.

"I felt the way to push back against that was to be at the table," said Saad, adding that her parents' political leanings have also since moved to the left. "We have to step up and be voices for our communities and not wait for others to speak on behalf of us."

But not all Muslim candidates feel that way.

In San Diego, California, 37-year-old Republican congressional candidate Omar Qudrat declined to comment on how Islamophobia has impacted his campaign, including instances when his faith have been called into question by members of his own political party.

Instead, the political newcomer, who is one of at least three Muslim Republicans running nationwide this year, provided a statement touting his main campaign issues as faces Democratic U.S. Rep. Scott Peters in November: addressing San Diego's high number of homeless military veterans, improving public education and expanding economic opportunities for city residents. □



In this Monday, June 18, 2018, photo, attorney Tahirah Amatul-Wadud, left, who is challenging incumbent U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Mass., greets residents of an apartment complex while campaigning in Springfield, Mass.

Associated Press

even though Republican and Democratic politicians alike have denounced the accusations as "conspiracy theories."

In Rochester, Minnesota, mayoral candidate Regina Mustafa has notified authorities of at least two instances where anti-Muslim threats were posted on her social media accounts. And in Arizona, U.S. Senate candidate Deedra Abdou received a torrent of Islamophobic attacks on Facebook last July that prompted outgoing U.S. Sen. Jeff Flake, the Republican lawmaker Abdou is hoping to replace, to come to her defense on Twitter.

"I'm a strong believer that we have to face this rhetoric," said Abdou, who has also had right-wing militant groups the Fraternal Order of Alt-Knights and the Proud Boys stage armed protests her campaign events. "We can't ignore it or pretend like it's a fringe element anymore. We have to let the ugly face show so that we can decide if that is us." There were as many as 90 Muslim-Americans running for national or statewide offices this election cycle, a number that Muslim groups say was unprecedented,

still far exceeds the dozen or so that ran in 2016, said Shaun Kennedy, co-founder of Jetpac, a Massachusetts nonprofit that helps train Muslim-American candidates.

Among the candidates to fall short were California physician Asif Mahmood, who placed third in last month's primary for state insurance commissioner, despite raising more than \$1 million. And in Texas, wealthy businessman Tahir Javed finished a distant second in his Democratic primary for Congress, despite an endorsement from Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer of New York.

Nine candidates for Congress are still in the running, according to Jetpac's tally. At least 18 others are campaigning for state legislature and 10 more seek major statewide and local offices, such as governor, mayor and city council. Even more are running for more modest offices like local planning board and school committee.

The next critical stretch of primaries is in August.

In Michigan, at least seven Muslim Americans are on the Aug. 7 ballot, including

by Keith Ellison, the nation's first Muslim congressman, to run for state attorney general has set off a political frenzy for his congressional seat that includes two Muslim candidates, both Democrats: Ilhan Omar, the country's first Somali-American state lawmaker, and Jamal Abdulahi, a Somali-American activist. But historic wins in those and other races are far from assured, cautions Geoffrey Skelley, an associate editor at Sabato's Crystal Ball, a nonpartisan political analysis website run by the University of Virginia's Center for Politics.

Omar's chances of emerging from a field of five Democratic candidates in Minnesota's Aug. 14 primary was bolstered by a recent endorsement from the state Democratic Party, but El-Sayed is an underdog in his gubernatorial race, he said.

Other Muslim-American candidates might fare better in Michigan, which has one of the nation's largest Arab-American populations, Skelley added.

There, former state Rep. Rashida Tlaib has raised more money than her Democratic rivals in the race



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## Jared Kushner's family firm accused of pushing out tenants

By BERNARD CONDON and  
GARANCE BURKE

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The hammering and drilling began just months after Jared Kushner's family real estate firm bought a converted warehouse apartment building in the hip, Williamsburg section of Brooklyn. Tenants say it started early in the morning and went on until nightfall, so loud that it drowned out normal conversation, so violent it rattled pictures off the walls. So much dust wafted through ducts and under doorways that it coated beds and clothes in closets. Rats crawled through holes in the walls. Workers with passkeys barged in unannounced. Residents who begged for relief got a standard reply, "We have permits."

More than a dozen current and former residents of the building told The Associated Press that they believe the Kushner Cos.' relentless construction, along with rent hikes of \$500 a month or more, was part of a campaign to push tenants out of rent-stabilized apartments and bring high-paying condo buyers in.

If so, it was a remarkably successful campaign. An AP investigation found that over the past three years, more than 250 rent-stabilized apartments — 75 percent of the building — were either emptied or sold as the Kushner Cos. was converting the building to luxury condos. Those sales so far have totaled more than \$155 million, an average of \$1.2 million per apartment.

"They won, they succeeded," says Barth Bazyluk, who left apartment C606 with his wife and baby daughter in December. "You have to be ignorant or dumb to think this wasn't deliberate." This up-close look at one of the Kushner Cos.' largest residential buildings in New York illustrates what critics describe as the firm's sharp-elbowed business practices while it was run by President Donald Trump's son-in-law and eventual White House adviser Jared Kushner. The Kushner Cos. told the AP that it didn't harass any tenants to get them out. But the data suggest turnover at the building known as the Austin Nichols House was significantly higher than city averages for coveted rent-stabilized buildings, leaving behind a trail of anger, disrupted lives and a \$10 million lawsuit filed late Sunday in which 20 tenants say they were harassed and exposed to high levels of cancer-causing dust.

On Monday, a New York state agency announced it was launching an investigation into whether Kushner Cos. violated state housing laws and regulations meant to prevent landlords from disturbing tenants' peace and privacy.

"We've looked into hundreds of rent-stabilized buildings and this is one of the worst we've ever seen," says Aaron Carr, head of tenant watchdog Housing Rights Initiative, whose investigation led to the lawsuit. "The scale and speed of tenants leaving, the conditions to which they were

exposed, provides a window into the Kushner Cos.' predatory business model." In a statement, the Kushner Cos. acknowledged it received some complaints about construction during major renovations, which ended in December 2017, but said that it responded to them immediately and that "tremendous care was taken to prevent dust and inconvenience to tenants." It said many tenants moved out when their rent was increased to the maximum allowed under rent-stabilization rules.

Those rules limit the amount that landlords can hike rent each year to protect tenants from getting pushed out, though in this building the rents weren't cheap, with one-bedrooms going for more than \$3,000 a month.

Also, the city's building department says it sent inspectors to the building dozens of times since 2015 and uncovered no evidence that construction rules were being violated, a finding that some residents say doesn't square with their experiences.

The landmarked Austin Nichols House at 184 Kent Avenue, for decades a warehouse for groceries



This June 28, 2018 photo shows 184 Kent Avenue in the Brooklyn borough of New York owned by the Kushner Cos.

Associated Press

and Wild Turkey bourbon, was gutted by a previous owner in 2010 to create sleek apartments that took advantage of the building's high ceilings and waterfront views.

When Jared Kushner and two partners bought it for \$275 million in April 2015, they made it clear they wanted to convert the building's 338 apartments — all of them rent-stabilized — into condos. All but nine were occupied, and other than maxing out the rent, developers had few tools if they wanted to get tenants out.

Just months after the purchase, the Kushners began extensive renovations, ripping out appliances, floors

and countertops that had been installed five years before.

"There were consistently people in the hallway early, 8 or so, banging on things, taking down walls. There was lots of dust. ... They had fans, and they were blowing dust under the doors," says tech salesman Marcus Carvalho, who left the building in December after six years, deciding the \$1,000 or so increase in rent to renew his lease wasn't worth it. "I didn't want to spend another minute in that construction zone."

His 679-square-foot (63-square-meter), one-room apartment, B502, sold the next month for \$800,000.□

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## Judge temporarily halts deportation of reunified families

By ELLIOT SPAGAT and COLLEEN LONG

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — A federal judge on Monday ordered a temporary halt to deportations of immigrant families reunited after being separated at the border, as the Trump administration races to meet a July 26 deadline for putting more than 2,500 children back in their parents' arms. U.S. District Judge Dana Sabraw imposed a delay of at least a week after a request from the American Civil Liberties Union, which cited "persistent and increasing rumors ... that mass deportations may be carried out imminently and immediately upon reunification."

Justice Department attorney Scott Stewart opposed the delay but did not address the rumors in court.

The ACLU requested that parents have at least one week to decide whether to pursue asylum in the U.S. after they are reunited with their children. The judge held off on deciding that issue until the government outlines its objections in writing by next Monday.

ACLU attorney Lee Gelernt told reporters that he was "extremely pleased" by the halt and that parents need time to think over with their children and advisers whether to seek asylum.

"It's hard to imagine a more profound or momentous decision," he said.

The hearing in San Diego occurred as the government accelerated reunifications at eight unidentified U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement lo-

cations. The families are scattered around the country, the adults at immigration detention centers, the children at shelters overseen by the government.

Annunciation House, a shelter in El Paso, said the government has begun transporting children in a "tremendous amount of airline flights" to El Paso and elsewhere. Director Ruben Garcia said he is preparing to take in as many as 100 reunified families a day.

Late last month, Sabraw ordered the government to reunite the thousands of children and parents who were forcibly separated at the border by the Trump administration this spring. He set a deadline of July 10 for children under 5 and gave the government until July 26 to reunite 2,551 youngsters ages 5 to 17.

On Monday, the judge commended the government for a revised plan submitted over the weekend to reunify the older children. The plan calls for DNA testing and other screening measures if red flags are raised during background checks.

Jonathan White of the Office of Refugee Resettlement, who is overseeing the government's effort, assured the judge that some reunifications of older children already occurred, and "it is our intent to reunify children promptly." He went into detail on how the process was working.

The judge praised White's testimony, saying, "What is in place is a great start to making a large number of



In this July 13, 2018, file photo, Allison, 6, and her mother Cindy Madrid share a moment during a news conference in Houston, where the mother and daughter spoke about the month and one day they were separated under the President Donald Trump administration immigration policy.

Associated Press

reunifications happen very, very quickly."

"I have every confidence that you are the right person to do this," he told White.

It was a sharp change from Friday, when the government submitted a plan for "truncated" vetting that excluded DNA testing and other procedures used for children under 5. The government official said the abbreviated vetting was necessary to meet the court-imposed deadline but put children at significant risk.

Sabraw said late Friday that he was having second thoughts about his belief that the government was acting in good faith. In a hastily arranged conference call, he told administration officials that its plan

misrepresented his instructions and showed "a very grudging reluctance to do things."

Sabraw said in court Monday that the initial plan was "exasperating," "completely unhelpful," and "written in a manner that seemed wholly divorced from the context of this case."

"This is not hard stuff," he said. "It's laborious, but it's not difficult to do."

Sabraw has scheduled three more hearings over the next two weeks to ensure compliance with his order. Also Monday, advocates said in federal court in Los Angeles that immigrant children in government custody are being given poor food, kept in unsanitary conditions and face insults and threats.

The allegations came amid

a long-running effort by attorneys to have a court-appointed monitor oversee the U.S. government's compliance with a decades-old settlement governing the treatment of immigrant children caught on the border.

Attorneys interviewed immigrant parents and children in June and July about their experiences in Border Patrol facilities, family detention and a youth shelter. They described much of the testimony as "shocking and atrocious."

Families described meals of frozen sandwiches and spoiled food, overflowing toilets and guards yelling at them and kicking them while they slept. Children said they were hungry and scared when their parents were taken away. □



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**ASHORE TO ASSIST ON HOLIDAY**

## Lava crashes through roof of Hawaii tour boat, injuring 23

By AUDREY McAVOY and CALEB JONES

Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — An explosion caused by lava oozing into the ocean sent molten rock crashing through the roof of a sightseeing boat off Hawaii's Big Island, injuring 23 people Monday, officials said.

A woman in her 20s was in serious condition with a broken thigh bone, the Hawaii County Fire Department said. Three others were in stable condition at a hospital with unspecified injuries. The rest of the passengers suffered burns, scrapes and other superficial injuries.

They were aboard a tour boat that takes visitors to see lava plunging into the ocean from a long-erupting volcano that has been vigorously shooting lava from a new vent in the ground for the past two months. The lava punctured the boat's roof, leaving a gaping hole, firefighters said.

Shane Turpin, the owner and captain of the vessel that was hit, said he never saw the explosion that rained molten rocks down on top of his boat.

He and his tour group had been in the area for about 20 minutes making passes of the ocean entry about 500 yards offshore, Turpin said.

He didn't observe "any major explosions," so he navigated his vessel closer, to about 250 yards away from the lava.

"As we were exiting the zone, all of a sudden everything around us exploded," he said. "It was everywhere."

Turpin said he had no idea just how big the blast was until he saw video of the

event later on shore.

"It was immense," he said. "I had no idea. We didn't see it."

Turpin says that he has been observing and documenting these explosions and that this type of activity is new. There were no warning signs before the blast, he said.

"There's something new. There's something really new," he said. "And I've been documenting them a bit."

Turpin has been navigating lava tour boats for many years and has lived on the Big Island since 1983.

He said most of the injuries were minor, but that he had just visited one woman who sustained serious injuries in the hospital.

"They're unbelievable people," he said of the woman and her family, who are visiting the island. "Just really good people."

The others in the tour group quickly pulled together helped one another, Turpin said.

"What I saw in humanity this morning was amazing. I mean this was a group of people that never met before, and they were brought together," he said. "In all honesty, we definitely evaded a catastrophic event today."

Officials have warned of the danger of getting close to lava entering the ocean, saying the interaction can create clouds of acid and fine glass. Despite the hazards, several companies operate such tours. The Coast Guard said tour vessels have operated in the area going back at least 20 years.

The U.S. Coast Guard in May instituted a safety zone

where lava flows into the ocean off the Big Island. It prohibits vessels from getting closer than 984 feet (300 meters) from ocean-entry points.

The agency allows experienced boat operators to apply for a special license to get up to 164 feet (50 meters) from where lava sizzles into the sea.

The molten rock is coming from the Kilauea volcano, which has been erupting continuously for the past 35 years. In May, its eruption entered a new phase when it began spouting lava through newly formed fissures in a residential neighborhood. It has destroyed more than 700 homes since



This photo provided by the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources shows damage to the roof of a tour boat after an explosion sent lava flying through the roof off the Big Island of Hawaii Monday, July 16, 2018, injuring at least 23 people.

Associated Press

then. But the only serious injury over the past two months was to a man who was hit by flying lava that

broke his leg.

Officials were interviewing injured passengers at a hospital. □

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## Russian media suggest Putin-Trump summit a step forward

By ANGELA CHARLTON

JIM HEINTZ

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russian media saw Monday's highly anticipated summit between Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump as a heartening step forward, with the Kremlin leader as the more prominent figure.

After their joint news conference in Helsinki, Russia media also took some swipes at U.S. journalists for focusing on alleged Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. presidential election that brought Trump to power.

"To me, it's the only question that interests the American press," reporter Yegor Kolyvanov said on NTV, a Kremlin-controlled national TV channel.

"Putin assured the entire world that he did not interfere," declared Olga Slobayeva on state channel Rossiya-1.

The channel's report gave clear precedence to Putin, running lengthy excerpts of his comments, with fewer, shorter soundbites from Trump.

If tangible results from the meeting were thin, the ceremony of it and the civil atmosphere between the two world leaders received considerable attention and was interpreted as a move toward improving the soured relations between Washington and Moscow.

"I saw two leaders today who can agree with each other," Konstantin Kosachev, head of the foreign affairs committee of Russia's upper house of parliament, said on Rossiya-1.

The meeting "plays a great role not only in adjusting and restoring normal political dialogue, this meeting



President Vladimir Putin speaks during a press conference after the meeting of President Donald Trump and President Vladimir Putin at the Presidential Palace in Finland.

Associated Press

also has great meaning for peace, for stability in the world," upper house speaker Valentina Matvienko told journalists.

The state news agency RIA-Novosti quoted a political analyst who believed Putin appeared to be the stronger of the two leaders.

"This summit will cause a lot of criticism from the Democratic opposition, maybe even part of the Republicans," said Boris Mezhuyev, editor of the Politanalitika website. "Maybe (Trump) will be told that he was not hard enough on Putin, could not get Putin to admit interference in the election, that he did not rigidly defend the American point of view on questions about Syria and Ukraine."

The reactions were largely

in line with what the Russian media said in the hours before the meeting.

Russia's largely Kremlin-friendly TV networks, websites and newspapers portrayed Trump as a political maverick who is being unfairly targeted by his own compatriots.

The Komsomolskaya Pravda newspaper dismissed the U.S. investigation into Trump's "mythical work for the Kremlin," and praised him for meeting Putin "despite opposition from his own elite and the hysterics of the media."

Panelists on Russia's popular Sunday night talk show "Vecher (Evening)" said Putin was going into the summit as the clearly stronger figure, notably coming off his successful hosting of the

monthlong World Cup.

Universally sympathetic to Trump, they described the American as hobbled by domestic political challenges — a problem that Putin doesn't face after 18 years of stifling opposition. Those challenges include special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation.

Ultranationalist lawmaker Vladimir Zhirinovsky was among those brushing off Friday's indictments of Russians accused of meddling in the 2016 election, calling it implausible that a dozen Russians could have done such damage. The arguments feed the Kremlin narrative that democracy is dangerous unless it is carefully "managed."

Russian commentators and editorialists who consider

the European Union hostile, troublesome or irrelevant also welcomed Trump's criticism of longtime European allies as "foes" of the U.S.

Russia's state-run Channel One said Trump's meetings in Britain and his contentious appearance at the NATO summit last week were secondary to Monday's summit, saying: "After all, he was just passing through Brussels and London on the way to Helsinki."

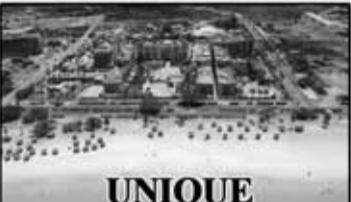
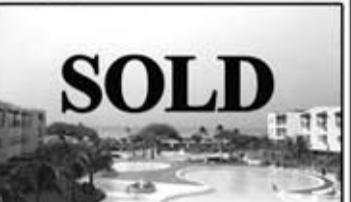
Ahead of the summit, Russian media did have rather modest expectations of how much Putin could concretely achieve.

Before he arrived, Trump denounced the U.S. news media as the "enemy of the people," despite constitutional protections for freedom of the press.

The Russian media scene is a different beast. Under Putin, the Russian government has assumed control or sway over most broadcasters and mainstream media and put pressure on critical reporting online. Putin is also regarded as creating a culture of violence and impunity that has resulted in the killing of some outspoken Russian journalists.

A protest sign posted on a Helsinki bus stop Monday read "Unpleasant things will happen to journalists who ask Putin questions."

Despite clear interest in Russia in Putin's meeting with Trump, the summit wasn't the No. 1 item on many Russian newscasts or websites on Monday morning. That honor went to the World Cup, and Russia's much improved global image from successfully hosting the tournament. □

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<p><b>PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K</b></p>  <p>3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m<sup>2</sup> / 5,081 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 140 m<sup>2</sup> / 1,507 Ft<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Afl 658.000 \$ 370.000</b></p>	<p><b>OCEANIA BG 134</b></p>  <p><b>UNIQUE</b></p> <p>1 Bed - 1 Bath, Condominium Out side Jaccuzi, Fully Furnished Fully Equiped, Ground Floor Home: 78 m<sup>2</sup> / 840 Ft<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Afl 710.000 \$ 399.000</b></p>	<p><b>PALM BEACH 320</b></p>  <p>4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m<sup>2</sup> / 5,597 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 250 m<sup>2</sup> / 2,691 Ft<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000</b></p>	<p><b>LAS CAMPEONAS 1</b></p>  <p><b>REDUCED</b></p> <p>3 Bed - 3 Bath, Swimming-pool Tierra del Sol, Garage, Furnished land: 627 m<sup>2</sup> / 6,749 Ft<sup>2</sup> Home: 180 m<sup>2</sup> / 1,937 Ft<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Afl 979.000 \$ 550.000</b></p>	<p><b>OCEANIA AB 244</b></p>  <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p>2 Bed - 2 Bath, Condominium Central Location, Fully Furnished Fully Equiped, Second Floor Home: 130 m<sup>2</sup> / 1400 Ft<sup>2</sup></p> <p><b>Afl 1,041.000 \$ 585.000</b></p>

## UN envoy says reforms needed to resume Libyan oil production

By EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press

**UNITED NATIONS (AP)** — The U.N. envoy for Libya said Monday he fears the recent agreement to resume oil production in the conflict-torn country will not hold unless two issues are speedily tackled — distribution of wealth and "endemic plundering of resources." Ghassan Salame told the Security Council in a video briefing that unless the issues are addressed it will also "be difficult to advance the political process."

Libya descended into chaos following the 2011 uprising that toppled longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi, who was later killed. The country is now split between rival governments in the east and west, each supported by an array of militias.

The Security Council has backed the holding of presidential and parliamentary elections in Libya this year but Salame warned that "without the right conditions, it would be unwise to conduct elections."

He said national political consultations over the last 14 weeks that included more than 75 meetings in Libya and abroad and over 7,000 participants showed that "the Libyan people want clear and effective



In this image, Ghassan Salame, United Nations representative on Libya (UNSMIL), addresses the U.N. Security Council, Monday July 16, 2018 at U.N. headquarters.

Associated Press

leadership by legitimate bodies, formed through elections."

"However, a handful of people defy this popular desire," Salame said. "The few who benefit from the status quo will, if left unchecked, do whatever they can to hinder elections. Unfortunately, they can do much, especially as they hold crucial, and too often lucrative, official positions."

"Without clear and strong messaging to those who would attempt to stall or disrupt these elections, the

conditions will not be met," he warned.

In a statement after closed consultations following the open briefing, the Security Council "underlined support for the U.N.-facilitated, Libyan-owned political process, including the preparations for credible and inclusive elections."

But the U.N.'s most powerful body made no mention of "spoilers" trying to thwart the elections.

The Security Council did welcome the National Oil Corp.'s announcement last Wednesday that it was in

charge of the oil ports and would resume exports. The firm is controlled by the U.N.-backed government in Tripoli, which is in the west.

The self-styled Libyan National Army allied with the east's interim government and led by Field Marshal Khalifa Hifter seized the ports earlier this year from another militia led by Ibrahim Jadhran, a rebel commander opposed to Hifter who took part in the 2011 uprising that toppled Gadhafi.

The seizure prompted the

National Oil Corp., with international support, to issue a "force majeure" to halt exports, which are Libya's main source of income. The LNA said it agreed to return the ports for a commitment by the Tripoli-based government in the west to investigate allegations that oil and gas revenues had been used to fund terrorist organizations.

The Security Council condemned attacks by Jadhran's militia against the country's oil infrastructure and said it now expects the National Oil Corp. "to continue its work unimpeded." Salame told council members the U.N. "will redouble its efforts to push for economic reforms, as the very stability and unity of the country are at stake."

Libya is "in decline," he said. "The crisis in the oil crescent gave us a glimpse of what is in store if tangible progress is not made now — economic collapse, the breakdown of public services, and more frequent and intense outbreaks of violence."

"In a country where terrorists lurk, where criminals are waiting to traffic migrants, where foreign mercenaries are increasing in number, where the oil industry hangs in the balance, this should be of concern to all," Salame said. □

## British PM accepts key amendments from hardline Brexiteers

By GREGORY KATZ

**LONDON** (AP) — British Prime Minister Theresa May on Monday accepted amendments to a customs bill put forward by Brexit hardliners who oppose her plan for a "common rule book" with the European Union after the country leaves the bloc.

Even with those unwanted concessions, the government only barely won a Monday night vote, gaining 305 votes in favor and 302 against. The bill would prevent Britain from collecting tariffs on behalf of EU nations unless the EU does the same for the UK. The government avoided what would have been an embarrassing defeat, but the razor-thin margin reveals the fragility of May's support as she tries to find a way to move the complex



British Prime Minister Theresa May meets representatives during a visit to the Airbus at the Farnborough Airshow, England, Monday, July 16, 2018.

Associated Press

Brexit process forward. A Downing Street spokesman said the government accepted the amend-

ments because it sees them as consistent with the prime minister's plan as set out in a formal white paper last

week. However, critics said May had caved in to pressure from Brexit supporters who want a complete

break with Europe. They said the changes would greatly limit May's ability to move forward with the plan that prompted two hardliners in her Cabinet to resign in protest last week — and fresh resignations of lesser figures Monday.

The amendments seek to limit the government's ability to set up the customs arrangements May has advocated, which would keep close ties to Europe. They were proposed by the European Research Group, the research arm of May's Conservative Party which is headed by lawmaker Jacob Rees-Mogg.

May also came under fire Monday from a former Cabinet minister who called for a new Brexit referendum, an idea immediately rejected by the prime minister's team. □

## Archaeologists in Egypt discover mummification workshop

By MENNA ZAKI

Associated Press

**CAIRO** (AP) — Archaeologists in Egypt stumbled upon a new discovery dat-

ing back to more than 2,500 years ago near Egypt's famed pyramids at an ancient necropolis south of Cairo.

The discovery which includes a mummification workshop and a shaft, used as a communal burial place, is located at the

Persian Period, from 664-404 B.C. The site, which lies south of the Unas pyramid, was last excavated more than 100 years ago, in 1900.

mine of information about the chemical composition of these oils," said Ramadan Hussein, the head of the German-Egyptian mission, at the press conference.

Among the artifacts found were fragments of mummy cartonnages, canopic cylindrical jars and marl clay and faience cups. Many will be displayed in the under-construction Grand Egyptian Museum, the first phase of which is expected to be inaugurated later this year.

Archaeologists also found a gilded silver mask on the face of a mummy in a badly-damaged wooden coffin. The mask, the first to be discovered since 1939, belongs to a priest.

"The finding of this mask could be called a sensation," Hussein said. "Very few masks of precious metals have been preserved to the present day, because the tombs of most Ancient Egyptian dignitaries were looted in ancient times."

Down the 30-meter-deep shaft is a host of burial chambers carved into the bedrock lining the sides of two hallways. □



A recently discovered mummy mask is displayed at hall way of a burial chamber dating back 2,500 years at an ancient necropolis in Saqqara, Giza, Saturday, July 14, 2018.

Associated Press

Saqqara necropolis of Memphis, the first capital of ancient Egypt. Memphis, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and its vast necropolis are home to a wide range of temples and tombs as well as the three renowned Giza pyramids. The latest find, announced at a press conference Saturday, belongs to the Saite-

In the mummification workshop, an embalmer's cache holding a large collection of pottery vessels, bowls and measuring cups were found. Archaeologists believe the findings will reveal more about the oils used in the mummification process in the 26th Dynasty.

"We are in front of a gold-



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## Pakistan rights group issues warning ahead of polls

By KATHY GANNON

MUNIR AHMED

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's independent Human Rights Commission warned Monday of "blatant, aggressive and unabashed" attempts to manipulate the results of elections set for later this month, with prominent activist I.A. Rehman calling it "the dirtiest election" in the country's troubled relationship with democratic rule.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) in its statement raised several warning flags including allegations that members of disgraced prime minister Nawaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League party were "being pressured to switch political loyalties," while some of Sharif's candidates were being asked to step down.

In jail since his return to Pakistan last week, Sharif is



I.A. Rehman, an official from the Human Rights Commission (HRCP) addresses a news conference regarding upcoming elections, in Islamabad, Pakistan.

Associated Press

serving a 10-year sentence on corruption charges. On Monday he appealed the conviction as did his daughter, Maryam, and his son-in-law, who received

seven and one-year sentences respectively also on charges of corruption over the family's purchase of luxury apartments in London. If the judge grants the

appeal, Sharif could be released on bail. Violence has escalated in the run-up to the balloting, with horrific attacks over the weekend killing 153

people, including a provincial assembly candidate during an election rally in southwestern Baluchistan province.

In election-related violence, gunmen on Sunday night opened fire at the election headquarters of the secular Awami National Party in the town of Chaman in Baluchistan, wounding former senator Daud Achakzai who was campaigning for Zumurak Khan, a contender for a seat in the provincial legislature.

On Friday in Baluchistan's Mastung district, an Islamic State group suicide bomber killed Siraj Raisani, a candidate for the provincial assembly, along with 148 others during an election rally. So far more than 170 people have died in election-related attacks, underscoring the security threat ahead of the vote. □

## Indonesia mob kills hundreds of crocodiles after man dies

Associated Press

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — A mob slaughtered nearly 300 crocodiles at a breeding ground in Indonesia's West Papua province in retaliation for the death of a local man, officials said Monday.

A total of 292 crocodiles were killed by hundreds of villagers on Saturday following the funeral of a 48-year-old man who was killed by crocodiles after entering the area around the breeding pond, said Basar Manullang, the head

of the local Natural Resources and Conservation Agency.

The man was believed to have entered the sanctuary in the Klamalu neighborhood of Sorong district to cut grass for his cattle.

"Since killing the crocodiles is illegal, we are coordinating with the police for the investigation," Manullang said.

The agency said in a statement that the villagers were armed with machetes, hammers, shovels and other sharp weapons. They

killed two large crocodiles of up to 4 meters (13 feet) and many babies measuring 50-150 centimeters (20-60 inches). Witnesses said about 40 policemen came to the scene but were too outnumbered to stop the mob. Police said about five witnesses have been questioned but no suspects have been named.

Police are encouraging mediation between the victim's family and Mitra Lestari Abadi, the company that operates the sanctuary. □



In this Saturday, July 14, 2018, photo, people look at carcasses of crocodiles slaughtered by villagers in Sorong, West Papua, Indonesia.

Associated Press

# Puerto Ricans return to power grid, but fear for long term

By DANICA COTO

Associated Press

**ADJUNTAS, Puerto Rico** (AP) — It was finally a night to celebrate in this village tucked into the mountains of central Puerto Rico.

People pressed TV remote buttons, clicked on fans and plugged in refrigerators as electricity again flowed into homes that had been without power since two major hurricanes devastated the U.S. territory nearly a year ago.

Lights are slowly coming on for the more than 950 homes and businesses across Puerto Rico that remain without power in hard-to-reach areas. Repair crews are sometimes forced to dig holes by hand and scale down steep mountainsides to reach damaged light posts. Electrical poles have to be ferried in one-by-one via helicopter.

It is slow work, and it has stretched nearly two months past the date when officials had promised that everyone in Puerto Rico would be energized.

And even as TVs glow into the night and people like 20-year-old delivery man Steven Vilella once again savor favorite foods like shrimp and Rocky Road ice cream, many fear their newly returned normality could be short-lived. Turmoil at the island's power company and recent winds and rains that knocked out electricity to tens of thousands of people at the start of the new hurricane season have them worried.

"If another storm comes through, we're going to die. There's no money left here," said 66-year-old Martha Bermudez, who still has a blue tarp over her rusting zinc roof. She doesn't believe the government has enough resources to properly rebuild the power grid amid an 11-year-old recession.

Still, after power was restored to her house on Friday, she celebrated no longer having to eat a diet of mostly rice, bananas and soup or wash clothes by hand in a sink that she and her husband found on the street after Hurricane



In this July 12, 2018 photo, a laborer from the Puerto Rico Power Authority works to restore power in Adjuntas, Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

Irma.

The only power they had for 10 months was courtesy of a neighbor who threw over a thin yellow extension cord connected to his generator that provided just enough power to light one bulb in her kitchen and another in her living room for a couple hours each day. Puerto Rico's electrical grid is still shaky after Hurricane Irma brushed past the island as a Category 5 storm last Sept. 6 and then Hurricane Maria made a direct hit as a Category 4 storm two weeks later, damaging up to 75 percent of transmission lines.

More than 52,000 power poles have been installed and thousands of miles of cable secured, with some 180 generators still providing power at key loca-

tions. But Gov. Ricardo Rossello warns that there is no backup system yet in case the power goes out again, which it did for up to 47,000 customers when the remnants of what was once Tropical Storm Beryl lashed Puerto Rico with rain and wind in early July.

A further complication is the lack of leadership at Puerto Rico's Electric Power Authority, which has seen four directors since Maria, the most recent one lasting only a day in the job.

The turnover comes as federal and local officials try to strengthen the power grid in the middle of a new hurricane season and as Puerto Rico's government prepares to privatize the generation of electricity and award concessions for transmission and distribu-

tion.

The changes at the power company, which include the resignation of five board members Thursday after the governor criticized a \$750,000 salary for the newest CEO, are not a surprise to Juan Rosario, the board's former consumer representative.

"The best thing to do when a boat is sinking is to jump into the water," he said.

Still, despite the instability at the power company and their worries over the power grid's ability to survive this year's hurricane season, Puerto Ricans in the remote areas that recently had electricity restored are happy they can go back to their previous lives and no longer have to drain savings to fuel generators.

For the first time in 10

months, retiree Ramon Serrano watched the 11 o'clock news on a recent weeknight and was at peace knowing the insulin he depends on was safe in a cold refrigerator. He went to bed at midnight with his wife.

"It's the latest we've been up," said the 77-year-old Serrano, who lives in Adjuntas.

The wait for electricity was too much for some in the village.

Mayra Natal, a 47-year-old housewife, said she left Puerto Rico in February to live with relatives in New Jersey for four months because she couldn't take being without electricity anymore. She returned in May thinking power would be restored soon, only to spend two more months without it despite promises from power restoration crews.

"They kept saying, 'Next week, next week.' And that's what it's been like until now," she said.

Some Puerto Ricans are still waiting to celebrate.

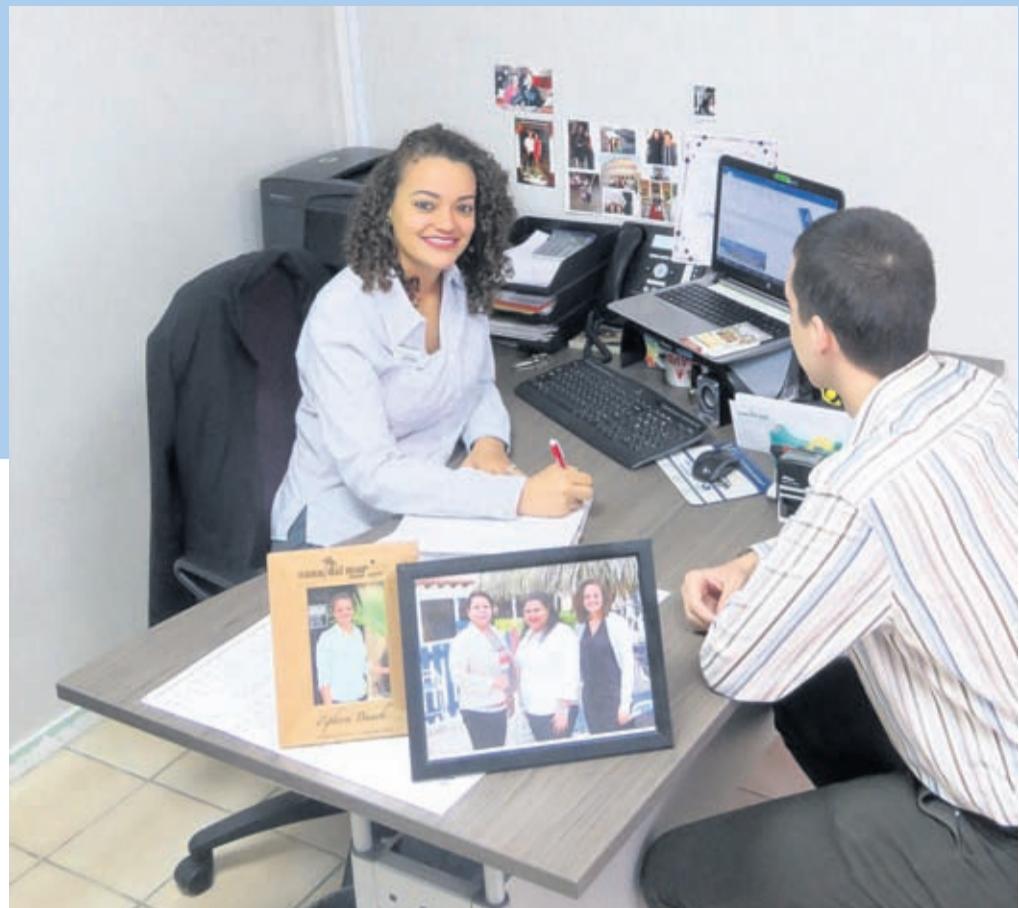
Outside a pastel green home perched on a remote mountain surrounded by lush palm trees, 90-year-old Domingo Ortiz sits waiting.

He hasn't had power since Hurricane Irma and burned through more than 200 candles until a group of volunteers gave him solar lamps this past Tuesday after navigating their way up a steep road filled with deep holes.

They also gave him a solar-powered inverter and a small refrigerator it runs. He and his two sons have filled the refrigerator with four bottles of water, a six-pack of soda and a package of meat stuffed into the tiny freezer.

Every day, Ortiz looks at the lone light post in front of his house and the downed cable that lies curled nearby. Asked what is the first thing he will do after getting power back, he gestured toward an old boom box sitting on his porch.

"I'm going to turn that on and dance a little from happiness," he said. □



## "You really get to make the difference"

**Casa del Mar Beach Resort & Timeshare** offers you paradise: an oceanfront location on the white sandy Eagle Beach, the amazing blue-green colored Caribbean ocean, wonderful luxury oceanfront or poolside timesharing suites and a world of amenities like spa, restaurant, pool and fitness. The core of the resort however are the employees. If they are happy in their work, this will rub off on the guests. The department responsible for that is Human Resources, taking care of the employees is their thing. Whenever you go through the door of HR you meet the energetic, jolly Ziphora Baarh, HR Coordinator.

Ziphora: "In a small resort like Casa del Mar the department of Human Resources is all about multitasking with one clear goal: taking care of the employees. We are Human Resources so you need to be resourceful, the employees are important and need to be heard." The work enhances innovation of working processes and systems, organizing trainings and events, making sure management knows the labor laws, taking care of job applications and interviews, administer the pay roll, keeping track on new technologies and facilitating employees with needed documents for dentist, doctor and so on. "Many times we deal with a lot more than only professional issues, sometimes employees just need someone to listen. You cannot solve everything, but we can be there and be a listening ear and that is really rewarding because you see it in their attitude as they are relieved."

### **Innovation Is It**

She has been working for two years now at Casa del Mar. "After I finished my bachelors in Hospitality and Tourism Management at the University of Aruba in 2013 I worked for one year at Aruba Marriott in HR. I left to do my Masters in Spain and Holland, it was a one year program about innovative hospitality management. When I came back here in the beginning of 2016 I started here." Innovation is it for Ziphora, in her opinion there is a lot of room for that in Aruba, especially in hospitality. "Many resorts like this one are innovating now, not only front of the house but also back of the house and I would like to be part of that. I love working in HR as it is my cookie. Working with people and in tourism both. We are close to the employees and play a big role in their development and growth, identifying their needs and see how to meet/help them get them where they want to be."

### **Connecting Events**

One of her favorite things about working in HR is also planning events. Besides the quarter events there is Mother's Day, Father's Day and the yearly BBQ event organized by the board. The resort initiates a lot of events to keep the people engaged

and happy. Health related activities like workshops, bowling, movies and more are offered to the staff. "Casa del Mar takes good care of their employees, we want to make it better every year to show our appreciation." The biggest challenge of the job is dealing with change for employees that are here for a long time already. We have a lot of long-term employees in house and they are of great value, however sometimes implementing innovation is not really their cup of tea." HR is an ongoing process and the department is the intermediate between management and employees. "We represent the management to the employees and vice versa. We are the compromise maker and it is not always easy, but very rewarding."



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## CONCERT PROGRAM

2018 Aruba Symphony Festival

### SATURDAY // July 21

#### 2018 Festival Opening Concert

##### CORO FEMENINO "CANTARE"

\* Mayra Garrido Artistic Director

\*Piano : Rob Rijnbout

\*Guitar 3 & cuatro : Giovanni Ras

\*Guitar & cuatro: Ryan Maduro

\*Guitar: Edwin Kock

Stabat Mater, Giovanni Battista Pergolesi

Quando Corpus Morietur

Amen

Cancion de Cuna Yemayá, Tradicional Yoruba/

arr.: Sergio Morales

It was a Lover and his Lass, John Rutter

(from Three Birthday Madrigals)

Ban Bail'e Danza Aki, J.C. Lampe/arr.: Johnny Croes

Pan Cayente, Rufo Wever

ARS NOVA CHOIR, ARUBA

\*

Au Joli Bois, Claudio de Sermisy

Tourdion, Chanson Anon.

Ave Verum, W.A. Mozart

Kyrie (Missa brevis in C dur), W.A. Mozart

E Mariposa, Anonimo/arr.: M. Kock-Garrido

Chanita, Lampe-Booi-Wever/ arr.:Sergio Morales

\*\*\*\*\* /INTERMISSION\*\*\*\*\*

Mendelssohn Piano Trio N.1 in D Min. op.49

Reveron Piano Trio:

Ana Maria Otamendi, Piano

Simon Gollo, Violin

Horacio Contreras, Cello

**Cas di Cultura: 8:00 pm.** Admission: Afis 35.00

### SUNDAY // July 22

Students Competition 2018

**Cas di Cultura Expo Hall: 11:00 am.** Donation Box

### TUESDAY // July 24

#### Virtuosi of the Aruba Symphony Festival

Astor Piazzolla, Tango Etude #4

Nicole Esposito, Flute

Francisco Mignone, Waltzes for solo bassoon

Benjamin Coelho, Bassoon

Armando Ghidoni, Virtuoso Swing Solo

Jorge Montilla, Clarinet

Valerie Coleman, Rubispheres for flute, clarinet and bassoon

Nicole Esposito, Flute

Jorge Montilla, Clarinet

Benjamin Coelho, Bassoon

Schubert String Quintet in C major

(D. 956, Op. posth. 163)

Netanel Draiblate, Violin

Federico Hoyos, Violin

Randolph Kelly, Viola

Horacio Contreras, Cello

Alejandro Acosta, Cello (ASF 2017)

**Ritz-Carlton-Aruba Ballroom: 8:00 pm.** Donation Box

**WEDNESDAY // July 25**  
Aruba Symphony Festival & Academy Jam Session

**Café CASIBARI: 8:00 pm.** Donation Box

### THURSDAY // July 26

#### Latin American Music Concert

Paquito de Rivera, Invitación al Danzón

Aldemaro Romero, Preludio y Quirpa

Jorge Montilla, Clarinet

Ana Maria Otamendi, Piano

Astor Piazzolla, from Cuatro Estaciones Porteñas

Reveron Piano Trio

Ana Maria Otamendi, Piano

Simon Gollo, Violin

Horacio Contreras, Cello

**Miguel del Aguila, Malambo**

Netanel Draiblate, Violin

Federico Hoyo, Violin

Luisa Varon, Viola

German Marcano, Cello

Benjamin Coelho, Bassoon.

**San Fernando, LUCHO BERMUDEZ**

Siboney, Ernesto Lecuona

**El Choclo, Angel Villoldo**

Mi Buenaventura, Petronio Alvarez

Bochica, Francisco Cristancho

Colombia tierra Querida, Lucho Bermudez

El Bodeguero, Richard Egues (Arreglo Felix Morgan)

Orquesta de Camara Felix Morgan, Colombia

**Freewinds Cruise Ship: 8:00 pm.** Donation Box

### FRIDAY // July 27

#### Young Artists Concert

Mozart Concerto No. 20 D minor K466

Aruba Symphony Orchestra

Claudia Roa, Piano (ASF 2017 Competition

Winner)

Simon Gollo, conductor

**Cas di Cultura: 8:00 pm.** Donation Box

### SATURDAY // July 28

#### Schubert in one Musical Island

Schubert Octet in F Major D.803

Kazuhiro Takagi, Violin

Federico Hoyos, Violin

Randolph Kelly, Viola

German Marcano, Cello

George Amorim, Bass

Jorge Montilla, Clarinet

Joel Arias, Horn

Benjamin Coelho, Bassoon

**Cas di Cultura: 8:00 pm.** Donation Box

### SUNDAY // July 29

Mendelssohn Violin Concerto in E Minor op.64

Mendelssohn Symphony N.4 in A Major op. 90

Aruba Symphony Orchestra

Kazuhiro Takagi, violin

Simon Gollo, conductor

**Cas di Cultura: 8:00 pm.** Admission: Afis 35.00

## The Aruba Symphony Festival (ASF) is making music soon

ORANJESTAD — The Aruba Symphony Festival aims to contribute to Aruba's cultural growth by organizing concerts, classes, conferences, and other artistic-related events and activities. Once a year, the ASF will bring to the island first-class musicians from all over the world who will join on stage to present the Aruba Symphony Orchestra and the Nuevo Mundo Chamber Orchestra. Furthermore, this ambitious musical and social project, will include in its busy agenda, the possibility of working with young Aruban musicians to introduce them to music as a way of living.

Last summer, more than 100 musicians arrived in Aruba and, during 10 intensive days of music, guest artists and students from more than 15 countries, gave the happy island an unforgettable experience with full house attendance concerts, workshops, and classes led by celebrated musicians from all over the world.

**Continued on Page 15**



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Continued from Page 14

This year, from July 20-29, Aruba becomes again one happy ER island, and one MUSICAL island.

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So, save the date for this amazing musical experience! For more information, please check the social networks: Facebook: Aruba Symphony Festival, Twitter:@ArubaSymphonyFe and Instagram: @arubasymphonyfestival.□



"Music is the magical meeting of humankind's need for intellectual growth and essential spiritual evolution. It is the most honest attempt toward combining these two aspects of the human condition. Nuevo Mundo Festival & Academy takes on the role of being a transformative encounter in our students' lives, as well as a celebration to our audience. With these words, I welcome you to the Aruba SYmphony Festival 2018."

-Simon Gollo, ASF Founder and Artistic Director -



By Linda Reijnders

**PALM BEACH — "It feels good to make others feel good." Ray Ellin is a kind of half Aruban so to speak. Well, he lives here almost half the year and his nickname is Aruba Ray. The American comedian, host and producer lives the other half of the year in New York. He just finished producing a new tv show for Comedy Central, which will air in the fall. Here at One Happy Island he created, produced, and hosts a very successful nightly live stand-up comedy show through his company Aruba Ray, called Aruba Ray's Comedy, which is at the Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino. Aruba Today was curious about the man behind the laughs.**

"I really think I became the number 1 ambassador for Aruba in the States. When I am on different TV shows like on NBC and Fox I always talk about Aruba. I love it, it's a part of my soul." He wants people to know how much he loves the island and does the best he can to promote it. He also brings big name comics here that are followed by many, many people. He takes the

comedians around to show them the Aruba outside the resort. Ray is happy here, during the day enjoying his Aruba and during his shows in the evenings making people laugh. "It is a great feeling, a positive affirmation. You know that you make other people feel good and that makes you feel good. There is just one big positive vibe in the room. Of course that feeds your ego. It's great energy."

#### Big Names

The comedians he brings here are not just any names. They are very experienced, very talented performers, who have been on dozens of tv shows and movies. This run of shows will include Chuck Nice, Christine Hurley, Lenny Marcus, Tony V, Pete Lee, Tony Woods, Joe Vega, Mike Vecchione, Ricky Velez, Yamaneika Saunders, Gregg Rogell, Jessica Kirson, Jimmy Dunn, Brian Scott McFadden, and Dan Naturman will climb the stage. And of course, the shows are hosted by Ray himself. These shows have become the most popular thing to do at night in Aruba. An almost guarantee to laugh your heart out.

## Ray Ellin, comedian, host and producer: 'It Feels Good'

### Little Ray

"When I was 11 years old, I used to watch Saturday Night Live and also the Tonight Show. When I was nine I vividly remember watching SNL and thought: what is this, this is great." Little Ray made kids laugh in school, as well as relatives when he was only 3 or 4 years old. "I got that from my mother, I would see her entertaining people in our house when I was a kid. She is very outgoing and funny, and a classical pianist, so I kind of picked stuff up from her. It was positive and fun, I loved it." He told his dad that he wanted to be a comedian, and of course he was not too wild about the idea. "But I told him: this is what I want to do. It was very clear to me. My first performance was when I was 11 years old, during 6th grade graduation, and it went well. After that I did standup at summer camp and school talent shows." When he was 15 years old, Ray performed at nightclubs in Boston. He would take the train by himself to downtown Boston to comedy clubs in pretty terrible neighborhoods. "One was in a neighborhood called 'The Combat Zone.' A fifteen year old had no business being there," he laughs. He kept performing, and got better and better, determined in following his passion.

Ray studied Film at College and after that he moved to New York City. He acted in many tv commercials, a few films, hosted several tv shows, and was asked to produce a comedy tour with Latino comedians throughout the States. "That gave me the idea of making the movie. I produced and directed 'The Latin Legends of Comedy' which I financed with 6 credit cards. While I was in the middle of making the film, someone called to tell me that only 2 or 3 percent of all movies that are made end up being sold. But fortunately, I sold it to 20th Century Fox. During the opening weekend, the film finished

third in per-screen average behind Oscar winners The Last King of Scotland and The Queen." The movie could have been bigger, Ray says, but he did it all by himself and was kind of burnt out. The success of the film was meant to be: "I was at this film festival, and the other film makers all brought large support staffs. I was sitting in an office in the hotel alone, cutting my movie promo flyers by hand. They were just terrible. The other movies had beautiful posters, I had these lousy paper flyers. A week after the festival a guy called me from a movie studio: 'Can you send me a copy of your movie. I picked up your flyer at the festival and I thought it looked interesting'. You never know where the magic might occur!" Ray laughs out loud. Before Ray had his successes, he had day jobs like bartending and waiting tables. He even sold uniforms to mailmen, did all kinds of jobs while in the evenings he performed in different comedy clubs in New York. He found Aruba after finishing working on a tv show: "I hosted the talk show LateNet for a while, a live show for the internet, which was way ahead of its time. People called in from all over the world to interact with my guests, who were big big stars. It did really well, was fun, got a lot of great press and amazing guests. After that show finished I needed a break, and ended up having a trip to Aruba. I fell in love with Aruba, and that is where this journey started."

**The Aruba Ray's Comedy Shows is full on again with shows at the Aruba Marriott Resort & Stellaris Casino (some days are off, check the schedule at [www.ArubaComedy.com](http://www.ArubaComedy.com)). Curious about Ray and his fellow comedians? Visit the show and let your smiles flow. To Ray it is all clear: "If I am not on stage for a week I feel weird, it's a part of my system. Eating, breathing, performing." □**



## SPORTS



## Machado homers as Orioles beat Rangers 6-5

By The Associated Press

**BALTIMORE (AP)** — Manny Machado homered before making an early exit, Adam Jones hit a three-run double and the Baltimore Orioles rallied past the Texas Rangers 6-5 Sunday.

Machado was removed in the fifth inning by manager Buck Showalter after a 26-minute rain delay, taking the All-Star shortstop off a sloppy field. The last-place Orioles are entertaining offers for Machado, who is expected to be dealt before the July 31 non-waiver trade deadline. After being replaced by Jace Peterson, Machado sat in the dugout, wearing a sweatshirt and joking with his teammates.

In a matchup between two teams staggering into the All-Star break, Texas got a first-inning grand slam from rookie Ronald Guzman but quickly gave the lead away in losing for the seventh time in nine games.

Machado ignited the comeback with his 24th homer, and Jones' bases-clearing double in the third off Mike Minor (6-6) put Baltimore ahead to stay.

Tanner Scott (1-1) earned his first big league win. Zach Britton worked the ninth for his fourth save.

### TIGERS 6, ASTROS 3

**HOUSTON (AP)** — John Hicks hit one of Detroit's four home runs off Justin Verlander, and the Tigers snapped a six-game losing streak.

Verlander (9-5) struck out 12 in six innings in his first start against his former team. But he allowed a season-high six runs while dropping his third straight decision.

Continued on Page 21

## CULTURE CLASH



### *Shifting culture set to play out in All-Star Game*

National League, Washington Nationals Bryce Harper, center, smiles as players mingle during a team photo, Monday, July 16, 2018, at Nationals Park, in Washington.

Associated Press  
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# Tiger and Phil in prime time? Great idea in 1999

By TIM DAHLBERG

AP Sports Columnist

CARNOUSTIE, Scotland

**(AP) —** As golf exhibitions go, this probably once seemed like a good idea. Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson in a prime-time television special playing 18 holes for — and let's pause for a moment here — a cool \$10 million. Put it under the lights in Las Vegas with some cool celebrities following inside the ropes, and it becomes must-see TV.

Back in 1999 anyway.

A concept past its time is heading to prime time, at least according to hints dropped by both Woods and Mickelson. The two say they are deep into negotiations to play a winner-take-all match with \$10 million on the line.

The best part for both players? Neither will have to reach into his own pocket to pay the other off.

"I would hope for a sponsor," Mickelson said last week at the Scottish Open. That takes some of the drama away from the match, mostly because \$10 million isn't life-changing money for either man. Woods has won \$111,878,724 in official money in his career, while Mickelson is not far behind at \$87,533,019, and both have made many times more in endorsements.

It's not even unheard of in golf, with the FedEx Cup winner pocketing \$10 million at the end of every PGA Tour season.

Still, it's enough for more



In this May 10, 2018, file photo, Phil Mickelson, left, and Tiger Woods shake hands after the first round of the Players Championship golf tournament, in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

Associated Press

than a few more tanks of gas in the Gulfstream. And it's enough to get Woods to want to reprise the series of exhibitions he once did in his prime before the unusualness of the event wore off and the ratings went in the tank.

Woods may not be the player he once was, but at 42 he remains the biggest draw in golf.

Mickelson gets some eyeballs, too, though at the age of 48, he's getting more attention lately for breaking rules on the golf course than winning tournaments.

The two were never real rivals, and never real friends. Woods was almost always the dominant No. 1, and had little use for chit

chat with any player — much less Mickelson — in his prime.

But reality TV isn't always real. And the lure of this TV special — for die-hard golf fans, at least — would be Mickelson and Woods finally facing each other with microphones picking up every comment.

"We are friends so we are always trying to make each other uncomfortable and needle each other," Woods said Sunday after practicing a few holes at Carnoustie, the site of this week's British Open.

If Woods and Mickelson really want to make each other uncomfortable, of course, they would be playing for their own money like nearly every week-

end golfer does. And if they really want to needle each other, it wouldn't be hard to come up with some zingers.

Imagine Woods about to try to reach a par 5 over water in two as Mickelson looks on.

"That shot looks tougher than trying to pass a DUI test with five different drugs in your system," Lefty might say.

"What do you know," Woods might reply. "I may have had to go to rehab, but you could have gone to prison with that insider trading scheme with the biggest gambler in Las Vegas."

Or this, as Mickelson stands over a 20-foot downhill to win the match on the

18th green:

"Don't hit it too hard, Phil. You know what happened when you did that at the U.S. Open and you ran and hit the ball again while it was still moving. Does the movie 'Happy Gilmore' come to mind?"

"Well at least he hit the ball," Mickelson might reply. "Not like the time the 9-iron went through the windshield of your SUV."

Yes, indeed, nothing like a little friendly banter to spice things up. If Woods and Mickelson really wanted to go at it, they could turn their exhibition into must-see TV.

But while this is about money and trying to stay relevant to a new generation of fans, it's also about image. Woods is working hard at rehabbing his, while Mickelson is surely more than eager to flash his smile and sign some autographs in a prime-time special.

Between them they've won only one tournament since the end of 2013, but they are arguably the only two players who can carry a prime-time match on their own.

The ratings won't be as spectacular as they were when Tigermania raged and Woods faced off against David Duval in the Showdown at Sherwood nearly 20 years ago, but in today's fractured media world they don't need to be.

Just more proof that it's not 1999 anymore. □

## Usain Bolt to trial with A-League's Mariners

**SYDNEY (AP) —** Eight-time Olympic gold medalist Usain Bolt will trial for six weeks with the Central Coast Mariners from next month in a deal which could see him play for a season in Australian football's A-League.

Australian football agent Tony Rallis said Monday a "deal between the Mariners and Usain Bolt in principle has been agreed,

subject to a couple of benchmarks."

Rallis said it would be necessary for the 31-year-old Bolt to trial and for Football Federation Australia to support his salary.

"Once the FFA comes back and says that they'll be part of the process, we're going to the trial," Rallis said.

Bolt has a long-held ambition to play professional

football and, since his retirement from the track, has trialed with Germany's Borussia Dortmund and Stromsgodset in Norway.

"If he's competitive, he will lift our A-League profile," Rallis said.

"He will create dreams for young people and he will give the A-League a profile no amount of money can buy. This bloke's an ambitious athlete. The A-

League needed a hero and we got superman."

Rallis said the owner of the Mariners would guarantee 70 percent of his salary and the FFA would be expected to fund the remainder.

Mariners chief executive Shaun Mielekamp said there was still a lot of work to do and a trial was imperative to determine Bolt's skill level.

"It would only be big if he

can play and if he can go really, really well," he said. "Because if he comes and he's not up to the level then it actually has a detrimental effect."

"But if he comes and he's as good as our reports are saying that he can be, then that would be very exciting and I'm sure that this stadium would be pretty full every time he put the boots on." □

# Baseball's shifting culture set to play out in All-Star Game

By BEN WALKER

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — David Ortiz can now laugh, sort of, at the shifting culture of baseball. For Mike Trout, Nolan Arenado, Bryce Harper and most every other All-Star hitter, dealing with different defensive alignments is just part of the game.

Tune in Tuesday night and there's no telling where fans will see fielders at Nationals Park. Especially in what's become merely an exhibition — why not try a five-man outfield?

Count Joey Votto among the boppers who'd love to do away with infielders clustered on the grass.

"From someone who's really been dinged by the shift, I would welcome it," the Cincinnati first baseman said Monday. "Once they started shifting more without question, I adjusted my approach and you have to or else you get burned by it because .290 turns into .250 turns into .220 like nothing." But the career .312 hitter can see why Major League Baseball might want to avoid delving into rules to define defensive positions.

"I like the idea of a dynamic ballplayer. It's really hard to shift against a really fast left-handed hitter for a multitude of reasons," he said. "Removing the shift may lend itself to the left-handed pull hitter that hits flyballs, groundballs and strikes out a ton. I'm not sure if Major League Baseball is excited about that."

To Ortiz, these overloaded infields are reshaping the sport. Not in a good way, either.

"It seems crazy, it seems like it's taking some fun part of the game away," the retired Red Sox slugger said Sunday before managing the Futures Game.

"It seems like there are 20 guys playing defense against you," Big Papi said, playfully estimating shifts took "like 500 hits away from me."

There's been talk that baseball, concerned that less action in the field could translate to fewer fans in the stands, might consider a rule regarding shifts.



Perhaps it would mean only two infielders on each side of the diamond. Or possibly they'd all be required to stay on the dirt.

"Maybe something where you can only shift a couple guys each inning," Arenado offered.

Of course, Max Scherzer, Jacob deGrom, Luis Severino and other aces might see it a bit differently.

"I am extremely pro-shift, especially against lefties because I pound lefties in and then change-ups away," Dodgers right-hander Ross Stripling said. "I know there are pitchers that don't like it as much. When you think about the shift it's easier to remember the ones that hurt you than the 10 that helped you."

As for the debate about shifts damaging the game, "certainly I understand it," he said.

"We were just talking about this the other day and we looked up the research a little bit. It's led to way less singles, but more walks and more doubles," he said.

No manager employs more shifts than AL skipper A.J. Hinch of Houston, so look for second baseman Jose Altuve and shortstop Manny Machado to be moving around when Paul Goldschmidt, Matt Kemp and

the other NL stars come to bat.

"The shift has transformed the game," Astros third baseman Alex Bregman said. "We did it a lot last year and won the World Series, so I guess it works."

Despite all the top talent at the plate, All-Star Games rarely turn into run-fests. They're often limited by the strong stable of pitchers each team brings, boosted by dominant relievers such as Craig Kimbrel, Josh Hader and Kenley Jansen ramped up to throw one inning apiece.

The AL won last year 2-1 at

Miami on Robinson Cano's homer in the 10th inning.

Not since 2007, in fact, have both teams scored more than three runs in a game.

That's the trend across baseball these days. Going into the break, there have been more strikeouts than hits in the majors. The overall batting average is .247 at the break, and it could dip to the lowest figure in nearly a half-century.

"I think offenses are down because of the shift. I see a lot of guys hit balls hard up the middle that are usually hits that are outs," Trout

said.

The decrease on the scoreboard has increased calls for more radical changes — outlawing shifts, lowering the mound, forcing relievers to face more than one batter.

"This is a game of adjustments. Everybody is constantly making adjustments to you," Atlanta outfielder Nick Markakis said. "You're going to want to cry about it and not have the shift any more? I think it's silly."

No one has suggested cutting the bases to 88 feet or stretching the mound-to-plate distance beyond 60 feet, 6 inches.

Meanwhile, home runs continue to rise at a record rate. Strikeouts, too.

Harper, a six-time All-Star at 25, is caught in the vortex. Set to play in the showcase at his home ballpark, he's batting only .214 with 102 strikeouts, along with 23 homers.

How can a batter beat the shift? "You can't," Harper said. "If you hit a ball in the hole, then you're out. If you hit a ball up the middle, you're out."

"If I have a kid, I'm not going to tell him to stay through the middle anymore because if you hit a ball up the middle, you're out," he said. "I guess guys could bunt down the first base line or third base line if they shift you the other way. But you don't get paid to bunt. If you hit it over all of them, that's how you beat it." □

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# Police: Drowning of NHL goalie Ray Emery not suspicious

**HAMILTON, Ontario (AP) —** The drowning of former NHL goalie Ray Emery does not appear suspicious, police said.

The 35-year-old player whose career spanned 11 seasons drowned in Hamilton Harbour on Sunday.

He jumped off a boat near the Leander Boat Club to go swimming, and friends called emergency services at about 6 a.m. when he didn't resurface, police said. Inspector Marty Schulenberg called it a "case of misadventure."

Emery's body was found at about 2:50 p.m. Sunday, about 20 yards from where he went into the water, Schulenberg added. He said first responders were not able to locate Emery right away so they called the dive unit. The search took longer than anticipated because of concerns for the dive team.

"It's a lengthy process and



**In this Nov. 4, 2011 file photo Chicago Blackhawks goalie Ray Emery keeps his eyes on a shot by the Tampa Bay Lightning during the second period of an NHL hockey game in Tampa, Fla.**

safety is paramount to our divers," he said. "We need to take the time do it safely and that's what the delay was."

A post-mortem was to be completed Monday.

"Mr. Emery was taking a swim this morning and the circumstances around that are a part of the investiga-

tion," Schulenberg said. "Those details remain to be uncovered by our investigators."

Emery played for Ottawa, Chicago and Philadelphia. He helped the Senators reach the Stanley Cup Final in 2007 and won it as a backup with the Blackhawks in 2013.

**Associated Press**

The Blackhawks lauded him as a "fierce competitor, a good teammate and a Stanley Cup champion." Flyers President Paul Holmgren cited his "talent, work ethic and determination," calling him an "outstanding teammate and an extremely gifted goaltender." Emery battled avascular necrosis, the same serious hip ailment that ended two-sport star Bo Jackson's career. He and fellow Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford combined to win the William Jennings Trophy for allowing the league's fewest goals during the lockout-shortened 2013 season and finished seventh in Vezina Trophy voting.

Emery played in 326 NHL regular-season and playoff games. He went 145-86-28 with a 2.70 goals-against average and 16 shutouts. He faced issues off the ice, including an incident

of road rage, assault of a trainer in Russia and behavior that led to his dismissal from Ottawa's training camp.

"Ray had many highs and lows in his personal life and his career," longtime agent J.P. Barry said. "He never let things that would derail most of us stop his forward momentum. He had a big heart and a fun loving personality. He was someone we all rooted for to succeed."

Toronto Maple Leafs general manager Kyle Dubas knew Emery from junior hockey and the American Hockey League. He said Emery's "smile and intelligence made him a magnetic personality."

Emery played in a charity hockey game Saturday night organized by Zac Rinaldo of the Nashville Predators. After word of his death spread, condolences poured in. □

## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

*Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: Hook and Cook your Own Fish!*



Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.

Captain Herby would catch the fish to be served at the restaurant the same day. That concept still lives, what is 'hooked' during the day is cooked in the evening at the restaurant.

Herby shares his experience with his crew, who take out guests daily on their tournament rigged 35ft twin engine

Bertram "Driftwood" or on their more spacious 37ft twin engine Bertram called "Living Easy". Both yachts are available for charters from 8am to 12 noon, or from 1 to 5pm (6-hour trips also available). To book a fishing charter visit [www.driftwoodfishingcharters.com](http://www.driftwoodfishingcharters.com) or call Herbert direct at (297)-5924040.



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# Cardinals win in interim manager Shildt's debut

By The Associated Press

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Matt Carpenter and Dexter Fowler homered for St. Louis, making interim manager Mike Shildt a winner in his first game.

Shildt took over for Mike Matheny, who was fired late Saturday after six-plus seasons at the helm.

John Gant (3-3) picked up the win with four hitless innings. Jordan Hicks got three outs for his second save.

Cincinnati had won four of five. It is 35-26 since beginning the season 8-27.

Reds right-hander Anthony DeSclafani (4-2) was tagged for six runs in 3 1/3 innings.

**CUBS 7, PADRES 4**

**SAN DIEGO (AP)** — Jon Lester won for the eighth time in nine starts, Jason Heyward drove in two runs and the Cubs completed a three-game series sweep.

The Cubs jumped to a 5-0 lead after two innings against rookie left-hander Eric Lauer (5-6), who came within one out of his first complete game in a 4-1 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers in his previous start.

It was more than enough for Lester (12-2), who struck out seven in 5 1/3 innings. The All-Star lefty allowed three runs and six hits while improving to 10-1 in his last



St. Louis Cardinals' Matt Carpenter (13) is congratulated by teammate Jose Martinez (38) after hitting a solo home run during the first inning of a baseball game against the Cincinnati Reds Sunday, July 15, 2018, in St. Louis.

12 starts.

Brandon Morrow pitched the ninth for his 22nd save, helping Chicago open a 2 1/2-game lead over slumping Milwaukee in the NL Central.

**PIRATES 7, BREWERS 6, 10 INNINGS**

**PITTSBURGH (AP)** — Josh Bell hit a two-run double in the 10th inning, giving Pittsburgh a five-game sweep of Milwaukee and its sixth straight win overall.

With rain falling, Gregory

Polanco and Colin Moran singled to put runners on the corners for Bell, who drove a pitch from Dan Jennings (3-3) into the gap in right-center. The relay throw beat Moran home but trickled through the legs of catcher Erik Kratz. Brett Phillips drove in four runs for Milwaukee, including an RBI single in the 10th off Tanner Anderson (1-0). The Pirates scored twice in the ninth off Milwaukee closer Corey Knebel. Pinch-

hitter David Freese tied the game with an RBI triple.

**DODGERS 5, ANGELS 3**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Yasmani Grandal and Enrique Hernandez homered, leading the Dodgers to the split in the Freeway Series.

Each team won three games in the season series, with four decided by one run. The Angels continue heading in the opposite direction. They fell to 49-48 and are 14 games behind the AL West-leading Astros.

Associated Press

Kenta Maeda (7-5) got the win and All-Star Kenley Jansen retired the side in the ninth for his 27th save.

Jefry Marte hit a three-run homer for the Angels. Taylor Cole (0-2) took the loss.

**ROCKIES 4, MARINERS 3**

**DENVER (AP)** — All-Star Trevor Story led off the ninth inning with his 20th homer, closing out Colorado's three-game series sweep. Story worked the count to 2-2 against Nick Vincent (3-2) before hitting a drive over the wall in left-center for a dramatic finish to a game played through steady rain.

Colorado (51-45) heads into the All-Star break on a roll, winners of five in a row and 10 of 12.

Seattle (58-39) has dropped four straight and seven of nine.

Scott Oberg (4-0) got the win with 1 1/3 innings of scoreless relief.

**ATHLETICS 6, GIANTS 2**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Stephen Piscotty homered for the fifth time in nine games, leading Oakland to the victory.

Sean Manaea (9-6) allowed two runs in six innings for his fourth consecutive win. All-Star second baseman Jed Lowrie walked and scored in his return to the lineup following a scary collision in right field two nights earlier. □

## USA Diving

Continued from Page 17

The 35-year-old Verlander earned 183 wins in 13 seasons with the Tigers. He was traded to Houston last year.

Jeimer Candelario, Niko Goodrum and Jim Adduci also homered for Detroit. Drew VerHagen (1-2) got the win.

Yuli Gurriel scored two runs and hit a sacrifice fly in the ninth for the Astros. The defending World Series champions head into the All-Star break at 64-35.

**RED SOX 5, BLUE JAYS 2**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Xander Bogaerts homered in his first

charged with four runs, three earned, and five hits in five innings.

**INDIANS 5, YANKEES 2**

**CLEVELAND (AP)** — Michael Brantley homered leading off the eighth inning, and the Indians beat the Yankees for a split of their four-game series.

One of six Cleveland players who will be in Washington for Tuesday's All-Star Game, Brantley broke a 2-2 tie by belting a pitch from Chad Green (5-2) into the seats in right for his 12th homer. The Indians added two more runs in the inning on a sacrifice fly by Yan Gomes and Green's wild pitch.

Carlos Carrasco (11-5) earned his first win in relief

since July 19, 2014. Cody Allen worked the ninth for his 20th save.

Neil Walker homered for the Yankees, who enter the break 29 games over .500 and have the majors' second-best record.

**TWINS 11, RAYS 7, 10 INNINGS**

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Brian Dozier hit a grand slam for Minnesota in the 10th inning, capping a testy, back-and-forth finish that featured four lead changes from the bottom of the seventh on.

Jake Cave singled to start the 10th against Matt Andriese (2-4). He moved up on a stolen base and a sacrifice bunt. Manager Kevin Cash ordered two

intentional walks to load the bases and brought left fielder Joey Wendle in for a five-man infield. Dozier squashed the strategy with his 16th homer of the season.

Alan Busenitz (3-0) got four outs for the win.

**WHITE SOX 10, ROYALS 1**

**CHICAGO (AP)** — Daniel Palka and Yoan Moncada homered, Lucas Giolito tossed two-hit ball into the seventh inning and the White Sox won for the third time in four games.

Moncada had three hits and scored three times a day after leaving Saturday's 5-0 loss with a bruised right knee. Palka also had three hits and drove in two runs. □

## Joshua to fight Povetkin in London in September



In this file photo dated Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2018, World Heavyweight boxer Anthony Joshua walks in front of his own picture after a media conference in London.

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Anthony Joshua will defend his WBA, WBO and IBF heavyweight titles against Alexander Povetkin of Russia in London on Sept. 22. Joshua's promoter Eddie Hearn on Monday confirmed the fight, which will take place at Wembley Stadium. Povetkin is the mandatory challenger to the WBA title. The 28-year-old Joshua has been in training while negotiations with WBC champion Deontay Wilder stalled, but could yet face the American in April 2019. Joshua said in a statement: "Povetkin is a serious challenge that I will prepare meticulously for. He has serious pedigree and only a fool would underestimate what he brings to the table." Povetkin, 38, beat David Price on the undercard of Joshua's victory over Joseph Parker in March, having previously fought for the titles Joshua now holds in a 2013 defeat to Wladimir Klitschko. □

## Serena Williams at No. 28 in WTA rankings, climbs 153 spots

**LONDON (AP)** — Serena Williams climbed 153 spots in the WTA rankings after her runner-up finish at Wimbledon, putting her back in the top 30.

Williams is ranked 28th in the list published Monday. At Wimbledon, the former No. 1 was playing only her fourth tournament after returning from childbirth, but still reached the final before losing to Angelique Kerber of Germany. Kerber climbed six spots to No. 4, with Simona Halep holding onto the top ranking despite going out in the third round at the All England Club.

Kevin Anderson climbed into the men's top 5 for



Novak Djokovic of Serbia, left, meets Kevin Anderson of South Africa at the net after defeating him in the men's singles final match at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Sunday July 15, 2018.

the first time after his run to the Wimbledon final put him in fifth place, while champion Novak Djokovic jumped 11 spots to No. 10. Rafael Nadal, who lost to Djokovic in the semifinals, remains No. 1. □



Vijay Singh poses with the championship trophy after making a birdie putt during the second playoff on the 18th hole to win the Constellation Senior Players Championship golf tournament at Exmoor Country Club in Highland Park, Ill., Sunday, July 15, 2018.

Associated Press

## Singh tops Maggert in playoff at Senior Players Championship

By ANDREW SELIGMAN

AP Sports Writer

**HIGHLAND PARK, Ill. (AP)** —

Vijay Singh hit a perfect approach to set up the winning playoff birdie. His celebration as the ball rolled into the cup was nowhere near as spectacular. Singh closed the door on Jeff Maggert on the second playoff hole to win the Constellation Senior Players Championship on Sunday, giving an understated fist pump as his birdie putt dropped from about 2 feet. It was the first major title on the PGA Tour Champions for the 55-year-old Fijian, a past winner of the Masters and two PGA Championships.

"It's a little different," Singh said. "It's a senior major, you know, so it's — any time you win a tournament no matter what it is, you feel accomplishment, and that's what I feel. I feel like I played well, and it's a win. A win is a win."

Singh (67) and Maggert (68) finished at 20-under 268 at Exmoor Country Club. Brandt Jobe (66) was two strokes behind, while Jerry Kelly (64) and defending champion Scott McCarron (71) finished at 17 under.

Maggert began the day tied with McCarron and

Bart Bryant for the lead. Singh was one shot back, but a crowd at the top of the leaderboard thinned out, turning it into a two-man race.

"I wasn't really watching the scoreboard or Vijay," Maggert said. "Like I said, I thought I needed to shoot 5-, 6-, 7-under today to really kind of ice it. So I was really focused in on making seven or eight birdies today. ... You know, I thought some other scores would come into play there toward the end, but the last two or three groups looked like they were struggling, other than me and Vijay."

Singh and Maggert posted identical scores through

the first 15 holes. But Maggert bogeyed 16, and then

missed chances to win in

regulation and on the first

playoff hole.

His 15-footer on the 72nd hole rolled wide, forcing the playoff, and a down-

hill 12-footer on the same

green went just past the

edge.

"We played toe-to-toe all day," Maggert said. "He hit a nice shot on 18, and I had a chance to make a few putts throughout the day, but they just didn't go in."

Singh made just one bogey this week, and that came in the third round. He had

five birdies Sunday and made some neat par saves to get into the playoff.

His tee shot on 17 landed near the trees to the right of the fairway, and his approach on 18 wound up in a bunker. But Singh blasted to within a few feet to match Maggert's par and send a senior major to a playoff for the first time since the 2015 Regions Tradition.

Singh played sporadically on the over-50 tour during his first few years of eligibility but is playing more often against men his age these days.

"To win the first major on this tour, I'm really excited about that," Singh said. "Winning my first tournament at the beginning of the year was big, and now I've won this one, so I look forward to winning a lot more now. I always say, the first one, you get the first one out of the way, you can win a lot more after that."

McCarron was trying to join Arnold Palmer and Bernhard Langer as the only back-to-back winners of this major. He came back from a six-shot deficit to win at Caves Valley near Baltimore last year and got off to a good start on Sunday. □

## Cycling's 'servants' do the dirty work at Tour de France

By JOSEPH WILSON  
Associated Press

**ROUBAIX, France (AP)** — Mouth gaping, his huge body bent over the bike, Tim De Clercq is doing the dirtiest job at the world's most prestigious cycling race.

The 29-year-old Belgian cyclist is riding at the front of the pack, his 1.90-meter (6.2-feet) frame taking the full brunt of headwinds, mile after long mile, day after day at the Tour de France.

And he is loving every moment.

De Clercq is what in cycling is called a "domestique," French for "servant," which means a support rider who knows he isn't fast enough to reach the finish line first. Instead, he and his kind are tasked with humbly helping their more talented teammates win the day's stage and compete for the glory of the Tour title.

"It's what I was made for," De Clercq told The Associated Press this week. "I know I am not explosive enough to be a team leader. But I don't think that is a shame. I have found what I am best at. I still do what I love to do."

During the Tour's first week, De Clercq could regularly be seen the head of more than 160 riders as they rolled through the green hills and wheat fields of northern France.

Slow in sprints, but good at the steady, long haul,



In this Friday, July 13, 2018, image, Italy's Marco Marcato carries water bottles for his teammates during the seventh stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 231 kilometers (143.5 miles) with start in Fougeres and finish in Chartres, France, France.

Associated Press

De Clercq's job is to make sure that the daily bunch of breakaway riders doesn't get too far ahead. By setting the pace, his Quick-Step team can also test the fitness of rivals and try to wear them down before unleashing their top riders at the end of the stage.

"When you start at kilometer zero almost knowing you are going to go 150 kilometers, and if you are going to do it alone, it's mentally hard to keep pushing, keep pushing," De Clercq said. For Quick-Step sports director Tom Steels, having a rider like De Clercq is key to a balanced team.

"You don't build a team with all good riders, you build a team with riders with different qualities," Steels told the AP. "You always have to have somebody to do the dirty job." That job sometimes includes joining a breakaway so the team has a rider in the front bunch, or using one's body—like De Clercq's—to shield the team's top riders from winds that make them spend valuable energy. Then there are the inglorious chores of dropping back to the team car to load up on water bottles, food and, in rain or cold, jackets to distribute to the

rest of the team. If a team leader has a mechanical problem like a punctured tire, the domestique must be ready to give him his own bike.

"For the worker you got to do your job all the time and there is not much glory in it," said Tom Scully, a New Zealand rider for EF Education First said. "You have to know where your leader is at all the time. If he stops, you stop."

Scully had to jump into action to make sure that Rigoberto Uran, the 2017 Tour runner-up behind Chris Froome, didn't lose time when he crashed near the

end of Stage 2 and Scully quickly led him back. Spanish rider Imanol Erviti has more work than most of his brethren.

While the Tour's eight-rider teams normally designate one man as their leader, Movistar says that Nairo Quintana, Alejandro Valverde and Mikel Landa all have free reign to go for the overall lead.

Erviti's hustle was key in helping Landa recover lost time after a fall on the cobblestones of Stage 9.

"It changes things. You do the same job to help and protect, but you have three guys to keep an eye on," Erviti said. "It gives more options for the team (.). But it is a bit more stress for us."

Beyond their work ethic, many domestiques share the common story of young riders who had to set aside dreams of becoming stars and accept that laboring in the shadows was their way to be a professional cyclist. The payoff comes when a teammate climbs onto the podium.

De Clercq has twice been able to enjoy stage wins by sprinter Fernando Gaviria at this Tour after spending many a mile keeping Quick-Step in charge of the race.

"That makes the victory even sweeter," De Clercq said. "I really killed myself two or three times, and if then you can bring home the bacon, then that's a really, really nice." □

## Froome happy as Tour de France heads for the mountains

By CIARAN FAHEY  
Associated Press

**ANNECY, France (AP)** — Chris Froome believes the mountains will reveal the true Tour de France contenders as he looks forward to the first of three grueling stages in the Alps. "I'm feeling good and optimistic about the upcoming stages," the four-time champion said on Monday, the Tour's first rest day. Froome, who is eighth overall after nine stages, is 1 minute, 42 seconds behind yellow-jersey holder

Greg Van Avermaet before the first Alpine stage on Tuesday. Van Avermaet is not expected to be a threat in the mountains, and Froome suggested the Belgian "will find it difficult to hang on tomorrow. It's a proper climbers stage." After an opening week of relatively flat routes, the first significant ascents begin with four categorized climbs as well as the punishing Montee du plateau des Gîleres, which features a six-kilometer climb at an

incline of 11.2 percent. "It's a tough stage. It will definitely start shaping the GC," Froome said of the general classification. Sky teammate Geraint Thomas is second overall, 0:43 behind Van Avermaet, meaning the team has two viable options to claim the yellow jersey over the second week of the three-week Tour. "The team around us is such a capable group of guys, and we're really going to be coming into our element now in the mountains." □



Britain's Chris Froome, rides in the pack during the eighth stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 181 kilometers (112.5 miles) with start in Dreux and finish in Amiens, France, Saturday, July 14, 2018.

Associated Press

# Russian hackers used U.S. online infrastructure against itself

By TAMI ABDOLLAH

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Exactly seven months before the 2016 presidential election, Russian government hackers made it onto a Democratic committee's network.

One of their carefully crafted fraudulent emails had hit pay dirt, enticing an employee to click a link and enter her password.

That breach of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee was the first significant step in gaining access to the Democratic National Committee network.

To steal politically-sensitive information, prosecutors say, the hackers exploited some of the United States' own computer infrastructure against it, using servers they leased in Arizona and Illinois. The details were included in an indictment released Friday by special counsel Robert Mueller, who accused the GRU, Russia's military intelligence agency, of taking part in a wide-ranging conspiracy to interfere in the 2016 presidential election. The companies operating the servers were not identified in the court papers.

The Russians are accused of exploiting their access to inexpensive, powerful servers worldwide — conveniently available for rental — that can be used to commit crimes with impunity. Reaching across oceans and into networks without borders can obfuscate their origins. The indictment painstakingly reconstructs the hackers' movements using web servers and a complex bitcoin financing operation.

Two Russian hacking units were charged with tasks, including the creation and management of a hacking tool called "X-agent" that was implanted onto computers. The software allowed them to monitor activity on computers by individuals, steal passwords and maintain access to hacked networks. It captured each keystroke



A man walks past the building of the Russian military intelligence service in Moscow, Russia, Saturday, July 14, 2018.

Associated Press

on infected computers and took screenshots of activity displayed on computer screens, including an employee viewing the DCCC's online banking information.

From April to June 2016, the hackers installed updated versions of their software on at least 10 Democratic computers. The software transmitted information from the infected computers to a GRU-leased server in Arizona, the indictment said. The hackers also created an overseas computer to act as a "middle server" to obscure the connection between the DCCC and the hackers' Arizona-based server.

Once hackers gained access to the DCCC network, it searched one computer for terms that included "hillary," "cruz," and "trump" and copied select folders, including "Benghazi Investigations."

In emails, the hackers

embedded a link that purported to be a spreadsheet of Clinton's favorability ratings, but instead it directed the computers to send its data to a GRU-created website. Meanwhile, around the same time, the hackers broke into 33 DNC computers and installed their software on their network. Captured keystrokes and screenshots from the DCCC and DNC computers, including an employee viewing the DCCC's banking information, were sent back to the Arizona server.

The Russian hackers used other software they developed called X-Tunnel to move stolen documents through encrypted channels to another computer the GRU leased in Illinois.

Despite the use of U.S.-based servers, such vendors typically aren't legally liable for criminal activities unless it can be proved in federal

court that the operator was party to the criminal activity.

A 1996 federal statute protects internet vendors from being held liable for how customers use their service, and except for a few exceptions, provides immunity to the providers. The law is considered a key part of the legal infrastructure of the internet, preventing providers from being saddled with the behemoth task of monitoring activity on their servers.

"The fact that someone provided equipment and or connectivity that was used to engage in data theft is not going to be attributed to the vendor in that circumstance," Eric Goldman, a professor of law and co-director of the High Tech Law Institute at Santa Clara University School of Law, said. A notable exception, however, is if federal prosecutors are bringing a criminal charge

for violations of a federal criminal law.

In that case, "we're going to require a high level of knowledge of their activity or intent," Goldman said.

When the DNC and DCCC became aware they had been hacked, they hired a cybersecurity firm, Crowdstrike, to determine the extent of the intrusions. Crowdstrike, referred to as "Company 1" in the indictment, took steps to kick the hackers off the networks around June 2016. But for months the Russians eluded their investigators and a version of the malware remained on the network through October — communicating back to a GRU-registered internet address that appeared to be in Missouri, according to internet records.

As the company worked to kick them off, GRU officials allegedly searched online for information on Company 1 and what it had reported about its use of X-Agent malware and tried to delete their traces on the DCCC network by using commercial software known as CCleaner. Though Crowdstrike disabled X-agent on the DCCC network, the hackers spent seven hours unsuccessfully trying to connect to their malware and tried using previously stolen credentials to access the network on June 20, 2016.

The indictment also shows the reliance of Russian government hackers on American technology companies such as Twitter, to spread its stolen documents.

The hackers also accessed DNC data in September 2016 by breaking into DNC computers hosted on the Amazon Web Services' cloud. The hackers used Amazon Web Services' backup feature to create "snapshots" that they moved onto their own Amazon cloud accounts. Amazon also provides cloud computing services for various government agencies, including the Central Intelligence Agency. □

\$449,000.00	\$729,000.00	\$355,000.00	\$674,150.00
 <b>REDUCED</b> Opal 223 Surfside Residences 4 bed/ 3 bath w lock off apartment steps from community pool	 Saliña Cerca 37B 5 bedroom home w private pool close to high rise hotels	 Caya Ritmo 35M 4 bedroom home perfect location near Eagle beach & supermarkets	 Rooi Santo 25M 4 bed/4 bath w pool, gym, & outdoor kitchen

## Stocks fall as oil prices drag energy companies lower

By MARLEY JAY

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)**—U.S. stocks are mostly lower Monday as energy companies sink along with the price of oil. Banks are rising along with interest rates, and Bank of America is climbing after a solid second-quarter report. Stocks finished at five-month highs last week as investors remained optimistic about the U.S. economy even as they worried about the trade war between the U.S. and China.

**KEEPING SCORE:** The S&P 500 index lost 4 points, or 0.2 percent, to 2,796 as of noon Eastern time. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 2 points to 25,022 behind gains for Goldman Sachs, JPMorgan Chase, and Boeing. The Nasdaq composite fell 12 points, or 0.2 percent, to 7,813. The Russell 2000 index of smaller-company stocks declined 10 points, or 0.6 percent, to 1,676.

**ENERGY:** Crude oil prices sank on reports the U.S. will take a softer stance on countries that import oil from Iran. Reuters reported that Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said the U.S. will consider giving waivers to countries that can't immediately stop buying Iranian oil by early November. Last month the U.S. began pressuring countries to stop buying Iranian oil entirely and officials said there would be no exceptions. Benchmark U.S. crude fell 3.4 percent to \$68.60 in New York. Brent crude, used to price international oils, fell 3.5 percent to \$72.66 a barrel in London.

Oil companies also skidded. Exxon Mobil lost 1.2 percent to \$82.34 and Marathon Oil retreated 6.3 percent to \$20.12.

**BANK ON IT:** Bank of America's second-quarter profits



In this May 17, 2018, file photo, an American flag hangs above the bell podium on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange.

jumped 33 percent. Like other big banks, it got a big boost from the corporate tax cut that passed at the end of 2017 and from higher interest rates. Bank of America has also been cutting expenses. Its profit and revenue were both better than analysts expected and the stock rose 2.5 percent to \$29.26.

Troubled German lender Deutsche Bank jumped 8 percent to \$12.14 after it said its earnings will be considerably higher than expected. Deutsche Bank has taken three years of losses based on high costs and big fines and penalties linked to past misconduct. It replaced its CEO in April. Banks were also helped by an increase in interest rates after the Commerce Department said sales at retailers and restaurants kept rising in June. That's a sign shoppers are still willing to spend even though wages are only growing slightly, and it's a hint the Federal Reserve will likely continue to raise interest rates.

Bond prices fell. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note rose to 2.88 percent from 2.83 percent. High dividend companies like real estate investment trusts fell as investors who wanted income bought bonds instead.

**SINK-CLAIR:** Tribune Media and Sinclair Broadcast Group both slumped after the Federal Communications Commission said it has concerns about Sinclair's plan to buy Tribune. Right-leaning TV station operator Sinclair has proposed selling some of its own TV stations as part of the \$3.9 billion deal, but FCC Chairman Ajit Pai said Sinclair would continue to control them in practice, which would violate the law.

Tribune Media plunged 15 percent to \$32.80 and Sinclair sank 5.2 percent to \$31.23. Sinclair is already the largest operator of local TV stations in the U.S.

**CHINA GROWTH:** The Chinese government said economic growth slowed a bit over the last three months.

dustries, soared after the Wall Street Journal reported that private equity firms are interested in buying it. The stock climbed 10.6 percent to \$19.22, which gave Arconic a market value of about \$9.3 billion.

When Arconic split from former parent Alcoa in late 2016, investors saw it as a faster-growing business whose stock would probably climb faster than Alcoa's. That hasn't happened, as Alcoa stock has slowly risen after years of struggles, and Arconic has fallen more than 40 percent since mid-January.

**AMAZON, AGAIN:** Online retail giant Amazon, already trading at record highs, rose 0.9 percent to \$1,828.97 on the day of its Prime Day promotion. The company said the deals will last for 36 hours this year, and Amazon is trying to get more shoppers to Whole Foods, the grocery chain it bought last year.

Amazon is up 56 percent in 2018 and is responsible for about 19 percent of the total return of the S&P 500 over that time, according to S&P Dow Jones Indices.

**DATA DUMPED:** Alliance Data Systems, which manages loyalty and rewards programs for retailers, fell 8.1 percent to \$223.75 after it said late and delinquent payments increased in the second quarter. □

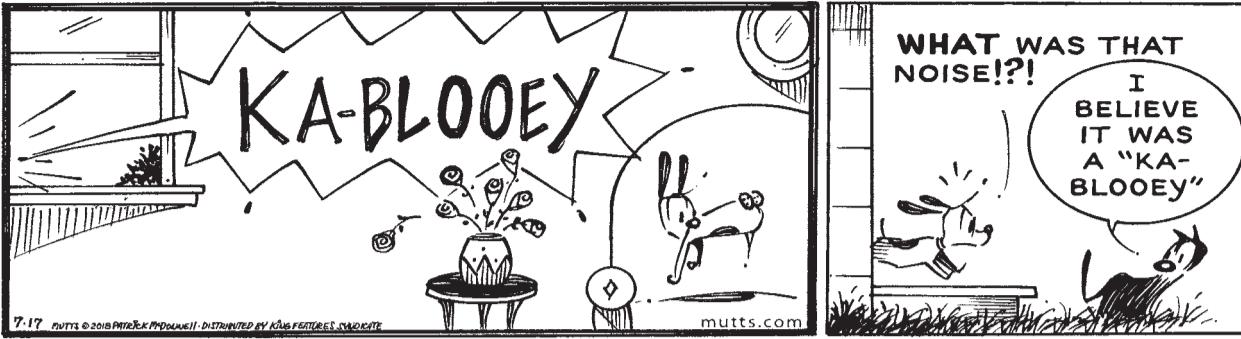
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Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

4		1	9		7
	5			1	
1		8		3	
6		9	7		4
	4			7	
5		6	3		8
	8		3		5
6				2	
7		5	1		3

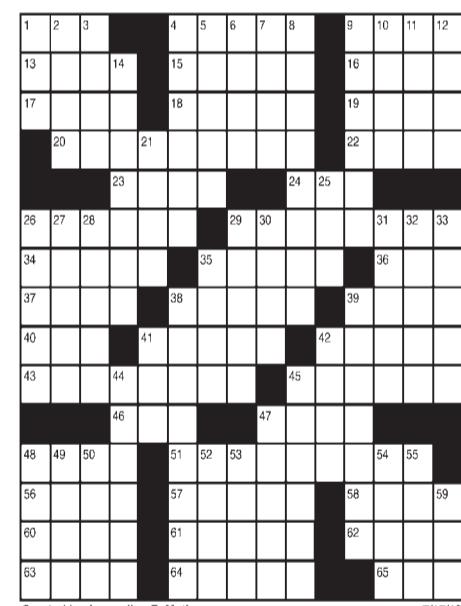
Difficulty Level ★★

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

6	2	7	5	3	1	4	9	8
9	1	4	6	8	7	5	2	3
5	3	8	9	4	2	1	7	6
1	4	6	7	9	5	3	8	2
3	8	2	1	6	4	9	5	7
7	9	5	3	2	8	6	1	4
4	7	3	2	1	9	8	6	5
8	5	1	4	7	6	2	3	9
2	6	9	8	5	3	7	4	1

Yesterday's puzzle answer



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

7/17/18

Monday's Puzzle Solved

B	R	O	S	I	F	T	S	A	J	A	R
G	R	O	W	P	R	I	O	R	L	O	E
W	A	L	L	R	I	N	G	S	A	B	E
B	E	T	U	S	K	S	M	E	S	Y	
M	O	O	C	H	C	A	R				
B	R	O	N	T	E	C	A	S	T	L	E
R	O	D	E	O	C	E	L	L	E	D	S
A	G	E	S	C	A	R	O	L	M	A	D
Y	U	L	N	A	K	E	D	S	O	F	I
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L	O	T	L	A	S	S	O	A	S	S	

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41 Actor	Gulager	50 Fodder	storage
42 Shacks		tower	
44 Can	;	small	
45 like;		appliance	
46 Young	dog	52 Singer	Campbell
47 " _	grip"; cry to	53 Incite	
48 Gypsy	the hysterical	54 Kick out of	office
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51 Lower	attack	56 Underprivileged	
52 Blossom	leg part	57 Endeavor	agent
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54 " _		59 Discontinue	
55 It to Beaver"		60 Foreign;	
56 Letters of		unfamiliar	
57 Urgency		61 Misplace	
58 Underprivileged		62 Oscillating	
59 Finished		63 Blower	
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62 " _		66 Foreign;	
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99 " _		103 unfamiliar	
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7/17/18

## Endangered white lion cub on display at Texas sanctuary

Associated Press

**TYLER, Texas (AP)** — A rare 7-week-old white lion cub is on public display at an animal sanctuary in northeastern Texas.

The Tyler Morning Telegraph reports that Luna, a white African lioness, made her debut last week at the Tiger Creek Animal Sanctuary in Tyler. She is among fewer than 500 white lions left in the world.

Sanctuary director Emily Owen says white lions are endangered due to over hunting. Only about a dozen white lions are left in the wild due to poachers and "canned hunting facilities" where people pay to hunt the lions.

Luna weighs just 12 pounds (5.4 kilograms) and is bottle-fed every two to three hours. She will be moved to her own habitat when she is 6 months old. □

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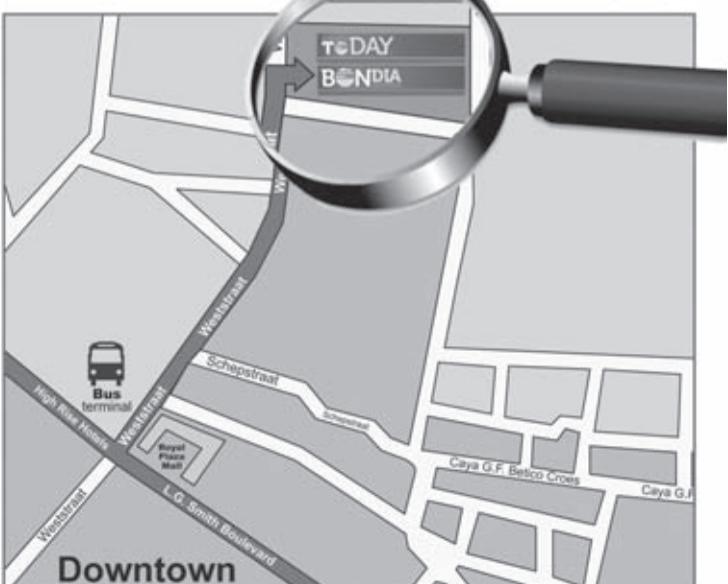
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# Study finds rare gain for tough-to-treat pancreatic cancer

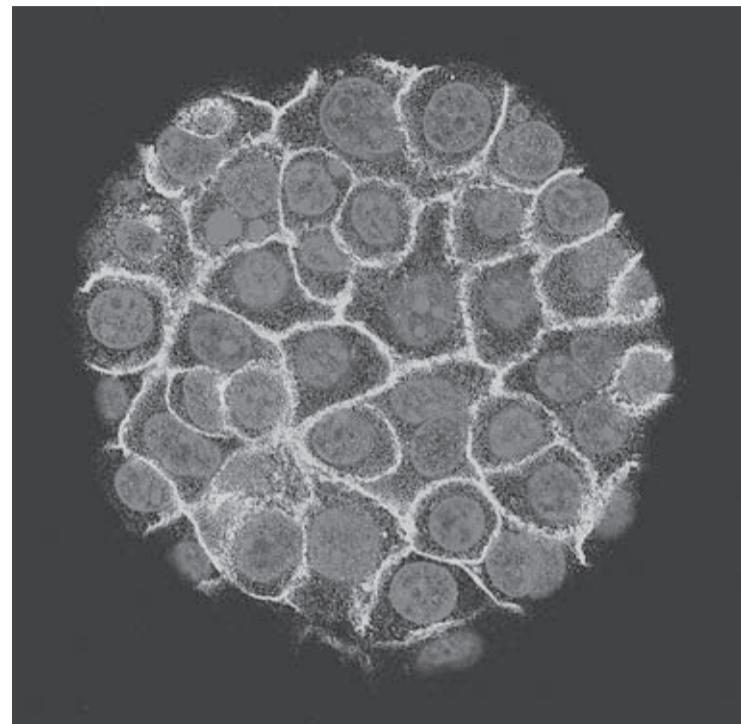
By LINDSEY TANNER

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Patients with pancreatic cancer that hadn't spread lived substantially longer on a four-drug combo than on a single standard cancer drug, a rare advance for a tough-to-treat disease, researchers reported Monday.

The results indicate the powerful chemotherapy treatment known as folfirinox will likely become standard of care for the minority of patients whose pancreatic cancer is diagnosed early enough to be removed by surgery, experts not involved in the study said.

After an average three years of follow-up, almost 40 percent of the folfirinox patients were disease-free compared with about 20 percent who had the standard drug, Gemzar. Overall, almost two-thirds of folfirinox patients were still alive compared with almost half of Gemzar patients, unexpectedly good results, said Dr. Thierry Conroy, the lead author and



This undated microscope image from USC via the NIH shows pancreatic cancer cells, nuclei in blue, growing as a sphere encased in membranes, red.

a cancer specialist at the Cancer Institute of Lorraine in Vandoeuvre-les-Nancy, France.

Results were presented Monday at an American Society of Clinical Oncology conference in Chicago. Dr. Richard Schilsky, the group's chief medical officer, called the research

an "immediately practice-changing study" and said it's the biggest advance for pancreatic cancer in 25 years.

Folfirinox is already standard treatment for patients whose pancreatic cancer has spread.

The outlook has been bleak for patients with pancreatic

cancer, an uncommon disease for which there is no screening. Symptoms including fatigue, weight loss and abdomen pain often don't occur until late, after the disease has spread.

About 330,000 cases are diagnosed each year worldwide, including about 55,000 in the United States. About half are diagnosed after the disease has spread; most die within a year of diagnosis and only about 6 percent survive for five years.

About 15 percent of patients are candidates for surgery; generally their disease was detected early and has not spread widely beyond the pancreas.

The new results are "reassuring for a disease where unfortunately on average people only live several months rather than several years. This is a new standard of care for this illness," said Dr. Andrew Epstein, an expert at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York.

Nearly 500 patients at 77 centers in France and Canada were enrolled

in the study from spring 2012 through fall 2016. They either received the four-drug combo through an IV every two weeks for about six months or Gemzar three times a month for six months. The study was funded by philanthropic groups in France and Canada. Participants had early ductal tumors, the most common kind of pancreatic cancer. Side effects are common for both drugs including low blood counts, fatigue and diarrhea, and they occurred more often in folfirinox patients. There was one death in the study in the Gemzar group.

Folfirinox and Gemzar are available as generics. Schilsky said both treatments are "pretty inexpensive" since the drugs are available as generics. Insurance typically covers both for metastatic cancer and gemcitabine for operable cancer, and it's likely it would cover folfirinox for operable cancer if guidelines are revised and it becomes standard of care, which several experts say is expected. □



In this Dec. 31, 2014, file photo, the snow-capped San Gabriel Mountains provide a backdrop to the downtown Los Angeles skyline as seen from Kenneth Hahn State Recreation Area in Baldwin Hills. Associated Press

## California meets greenhouse gas reduction goal years early

CHRISTOPHER WEBER

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — California greenhouse gas emissions fell below 1990 levels, meeting an early target years ahead of schedule and putting the state well on its way toward reaching long-term goals to fight climate change, officials said Wednesday.

Chairwoman Mary D. Nichols called it "great news for the health of Californians,

the state's environment and its economy."

Greenhouse gas emissions dropped 2.7 percent in 2016 — the latest year available — to about 430 million metric tons, the board said. That's just below the 431 million metric tons produced in 1990.

California law requires that emissions return to 1990 levels by 2020 and reach 40 percent below that marker by 2030.

The Air Resources Board has broad authority to achieve those goals in the nation's most populous state.

"California set the toughest emissions targets in the nation, tracked progress and delivered results," Governor Jerry Brown said Wednesday.

The decrease is partly a result of California's increased use of renewable power, the board said. Solar electricity generation from rooftop arrays and power plants jumped 33 percent in 2016, according to the new data.

Imports of hydroelectric power shot up 39 percent that year as rains returned to the Western United States after years of drought, officials said. □

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## The Go-Go's on their legacy and advice for other rockers

By JOHN CARUCCI  
Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Go-Go's guitarist Jane Wiedlin has five simple words of advice for female rock bands — "Write. Write. Write. Write. Write," she said.

"I think the world needs a lot more women that are really taking charge of their whole career and image, instead of women being picked by men and then songs get written for them and players played for them," Wiedlin said.

"I just would like to see a little bit more wholly, self-realized female artists. I know there's some out there. But I want more."

Wiedlin joined other members of her pioneering all-female band on a Broadway stage last week to welcome "Head Over Heels," the musical based on the band's infectious hits. They treated the audience to a two-song set at curtain call. "Head Over Heels" weaves the Go-Go's tunes — "We Got the Beat," "Our Lips Are Sealed," and other hits with deep cuts and lead



In this July 12, 2018 file photo, The Go-Go's band members, Charlotte Caffey, appear at the curtain call for the Broadway musical "Head Over Heels" in New York.

Associated Press

singer Belinda Carlisle's subsequent singles — to tell an updated take on Sir Philip Sidney's "Arcadia."

It's an Elizabethan tale about a royal family trying to escape an oracle's prophecy of doom, using Shakespearean conventions and reveals and mis-

taken identities.

"The fact that we actually made it to Broadway feels like it's kind of a miracle. And also, super unlikely for a band that started 40 years ago as a punk rock band.

So, it's pretty thrilling," Wiedlin said.

The Grammy-nominated Go-Go's helped pave the way for future female artists and notably sang and played their own songs, but Carlisle stops short of feeling like a role model.

"I don't like that term. I don't think we've ever thought of ourselves as role models.

"We just did the work and got on with it," she said. "It's weird that there aren't more Go-Go's that have come along. I don't know why, but for whatever reason."

The Go-Go's have no plans to tour, but Wiedlin claims it's not the end of the band. "In 2016, we did a no-more-touring tour, and basically, we announced we were not going to be touring anymore, which for some reason most people thought that meant we were breaking up. But we're not broken up," Wiedlin said.

She said the band will continue to work together, and separately, as well as perform in situations she deems, "exciting." And having time can lead to cool projects, like the Broadway show.

"We were all to the point where touring is just a bit too much, so we are very happy to be focused on the musical 'Head Over Heels' right now," she said. "There's plenty of stuff in the future for us, both together and apart." □

## Ace Atkins' 'The Sinners' is action-packed

By OLINE H. COGDILL  
Associated Press

"The Sinners: A Quinn Colson Novel" (Putnam), by Ace Atkins

Mississippi's rural Tibbehah County — the evocative setting for Ace Atkins' superior series about Quinn Colson, a former Army Ranger turned sheriff — is the cross-roads of all things good and evil. Here, ordinary people too often intersect with members of the crime syndicate and general low-life people who have infiltrated the area.

In the action-packed "The Sinners," Quinn again is battling drug traffickers who are using Tibbehah as their headquarters. Dirt-track racers Tyler and Cody Pritchard are carrying on the family business by growing marijuana on their farm. But the brothers' lucrative sideline is running into troubles that have nothing to do with the law. Their violent, racist uncle Heath

shows up one night after serving 23 years in prison, planning to take charge of the brothers' land and business, with or without their permission. Meanwhile, Fannie Hathcock, who runs the huge strip club Vienna's Place, believes the Pritchards have violated their agreement by selling more marijuana than they raise. That hurts Fannie's standing with the Dixie Mafia that has its tentacles in Vienna's Place, its largest source for laundering money.

Investigating the drug trade and the murders that have resulted from the rivalry is taking priority in Quinn's professional life, but the sheriff is also dealing with a major life change.

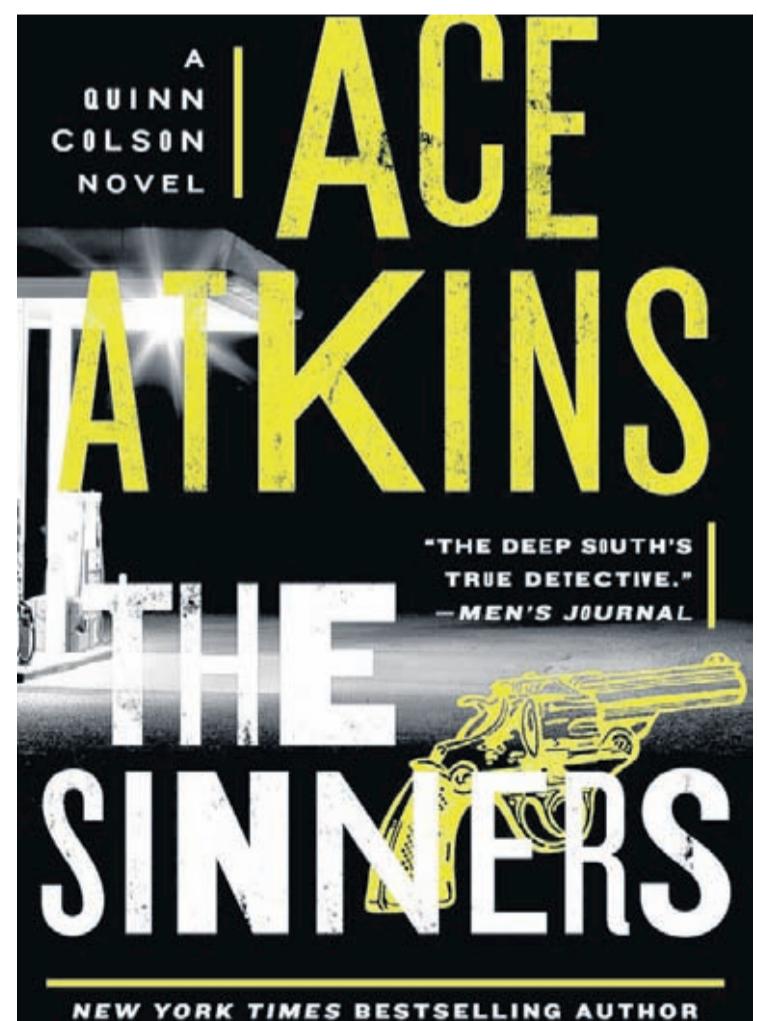
He's less than a week away from marrying nurse Maggie Powers and becoming a father to her 7-year-old son, Brandon. Atkins constructs his series to be equally a look at the

criminal invasion in Quinn's part of Mississippi and a story about families — a technique that provides balance to "The Sinners." Quinn's closeness to his mother, sister Caddy and nephew Jason provide him with balance that will expand when he marries and takes on the responsibility of fatherhood.

Quinn's extended family also is a major part of his life, especially former soldier Boom Kimbrough. Although the Pritchard brothers are criminals and crude, Atkins shows they have a strong bond and actually care about each other.

Their volatile uncle is another matter. Even the devious Fannie has a sense of humanity that occasionally peeks through.

Tibbehah County and the town of Jericho are small areas with big-city problems as Atkins maintains the sense of community that flows through the region. □



This cover image released by Putnam shows "The Sinners," by Ace Atkins.

Associated Press

## Sacha Baron Cohen back with old style, same results

By MARK KENNEDY

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The provocateur Sacha Baron Cohen has rebooted his ambush chat show and before any judgment is made about the wisdom of that decision, you have to admire the sheer perseverance of not only the host but also his so-called guests.

Fifteen years after the British comedian leapt to America as an unknown cultural trip-wire to punk everyone from Donald Trump to Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, he's still befuddling folks who should really know better.

The first episode of Showtime's "Who Is America?" somehow snared former presidential candidate Bernie Sanders and former Republican senator Trent Lott, neither apparently too savvy to sit opposite a dubious dude who is either spectacularly ill-informed or perfectly like-minded.

The first episode — the only one Showtime allowed journalists to talk about — follows Baron Cohen's tested formula: Create a bunch of off-the-wall characters with



In this March 4, 2018 file photo, Sacha Baron Cohen arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

prosthetics and accents then set them loose on the unsuspecting public, either wing-tipped or rednecked. Truth be told, the second episode of "Who Is America?" is better than the first,

with the upcoming humiliations of some public figures absolutely astounding.

On "Da Ali G Show" from 2000-2004, Baron Cohen played a dim, wannabe gangster; an anti-Semitic correspondent from Kazakhstan; and a gay Austrian reporter. This time, his characters include a far right-wing moron; a gung-ho Israeli anti-terrorism teacher; an ultra-liberal who cycles around in a ponytail and an NPR T-shirt; and an ex-con skinhead with a biker beard.

Over two episodes, the show proves uneven — best when it toys with those in power and less so when it goes for a cheap laugh from the frivolous. A trip by his left-wing character to a fancy candlelit dinner with staunch conservatives in South Carolina felt flat in comparison to the sheer mischief Baron Cohen gets into as the Israeli character when trying to get gun-rights advocates to endorse his notion of arming preschoolers.

That's always been the genius of Baron Cohen's format: seeing how far he can coax someone down the rabbit hole.

This time, he gets grown,

intelligent — and sometimes elected — men to back a fictional program called Kindergardians, in which kids as young as 4 are trained to shoot guns decorated as stuffed animals (like the "Uzi-corn" or the "Dino-gun").

So we get the sight of Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, former Rep. Joe Walsh and the twin gun rights activists Larry Pratt, of Gun Owners of America, and Philip Van Cleave, of the Virginia Citizens Defense League, duped into parroting prepared text on a teleprompter that "first-graders make good first-grenades" and aiming a gun at the screen while singing a twisted version of the nursery song, namely "Head, Shoulders, Not the Toes, Not the Toes."

Showtime has been tight-lipped about the seven-episode series, to the point of asking journalists who see the show to sign non-disclosure agreements and place their phones in locked cases. Security guards scanned the room with night-vision goggles during a recent screening. (Showtime might embrace free speech but they're happy to limit it, too.)

Yet in a reminder that even the best laid corporate plans unravel, the network's own promotional department has revealed that former Vice President Dick Cheney features in a future episode, somehow convinced to add his friendly autograph to a jug used for waterboarding.

And we know that Sarah Palin, the former Republican vice-presidential candidate, admits that she too was duped, saying on Facebook she had fallen victim to Baron Cohen's "evil, exploitative, sick 'humor.'" Add defeated Senate candidate Roy Moore to that list; he was enticed to a sit-down with the promise of an award for being a friend of Israel.

It's remarkable that anyone still falls for this bait-and-switch and so give credit to Baron Cohen's team for still beguiling politicians — some, admittedly, not so relevant any more — to their doom. Conservative provocateur James O'Keefe has to smuggle his cameras in, but Baron Cohen uses his as a lure. They keep coming despite the baton he dropped being taken up by the likes of "Daily Show" and "Full Frontal" correspondents. Why anyone sits for a TV interview anymore is a mystery. Baron Cohen and his team are like those weird fish in the deep dark that dangle a light to attract prey. They play to vanity but end up with something truly grotesque. His victims often try to ingratiate themselves with the host's racist jokes or play into his stereotypes a little too easily.

It's a honed technique: Baron Cohen was trolling people before trolling was a daily thing.

He was creating "fake news" before that was in vogue.

"Who Is America?" — like his previous show — offers no moments of truth when the hunted, led to the extremes by a stranger with funny facial hair, finally realize that they are in a logical pretzel and suddenly comprehend the consequences of their thinking. □

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# In 'Blindspotting,' simmering tensions with a beat

By JAKE COYLE

Associated Press

"Blindspotting," the directorial debut of Carlos Lopez Estrada, stalks the streets of Oakland with a heightened, spoken-word flow, passionately freestyling on race, police brutality and gentrification through a searing story about two friends: one black, one white.

Though stylistically scattershot and often overstated, the funky rhythm of "Blindspotting" undeniably finds a pulse. That's overwhelmingly thanks to the chemistry between its two talented stars — Daveed Diggs, the "Hamilton" Tony-winner, and his longtime pal Rafael Casal — whose characters' relationship, like in a Tennessee Williams play, steadily simmers until it boils over in an emotional, theatrical showdown. Diggs plays Collin, who has just days until his probation is over for a violent incident vaguely referred to as a "fire technicality." He and Miles (Casal), his more hot-headed lifelong friend, are Bay Area movers who trade poetic versus along their routes while cursing the influx of hipsters to their once grittier neighborhood.

Collin is the cool, composed one, trying to lay low and get his life back



This image released by Lionsgate shows Rafael Casal, from left, Daveed Diggs and Jon Chaffin in a scene from "Blindspotting."

on track. Miles, with a grill in his teeth and righteous fury at the changing face of Oakland, is buying a gun to protect his girlfriend and their young son. Their paths feel increasingly divergent, even as their devotion to one another remains deeply, sweetly sincere.

"We got kinda a Calvin and Hobbes thing going on," says Miles of their rapport. While Collin is stopped at a red light on his way home one night, a black man runs in front of the truck, turns down the street and, just after pleading not to be shot, is mercilessly gunned down by a white police officer who's stand-

ing just outside Collin's window. Collin is too fearful to come forward, but the incident shakes him. In one of the movie's more vivid digressions, Collin dreams of himself standing trial with the murderous cop as his judge, while choking on bullets. In the daytime, Collin regularly jogs through a cemetery, as if he's trying to outrun the deaths of young black men all around him. As you can tell, "Blindspotting" isn't shy about channeling topical concerns into hard-to-miss symbolism. There are coincidences, too, that stretch plausibility, as Estrada juggles lowkey scenes full of Oakland fla-

vor with heavier thematic moments. The ride can be a riot, especially when Utkarsh Ambudkar drops in as a hyper, awe-struck passerby to relate the story of Collin's arrest. (Sample line: "Who knew hipsters were so flammable?") Diggs and Casal, a spoken-word artist, wrote the film together, and they once considered doing it entirely in verse. That musicality remains in the film's DNA. On the appeal of his freestyle, Miles says: "They like the bounce of it." "Blindspotting" bounces, too, skipping scene to scene like it's going track to track. But you can feel the movie

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start to impose too much on itself by the third act, when it was better just riffing. Still, it's hard to remember a recent movie that so powerfully distilled social issues into a single relationship. "Blindspotting" is a buddy movie, at heart, about friends pulled apart by forces outside their grasp. Collin and Miles badly want to ignore the differences created by their skin color, but it gets harder and harder for them not to acknowledge their divergent experiences of privilege and justice, eventually leading to a back-alley reckoning. Oakland's identity issues become their own.

Diggs, who played Thomas Jefferson and Marquis de Lafayette in "Hamilton," is quite obviously an equally talented film actor, so comfortably sliding from fiery monologues to deadpan comedy. (In one scene, the indelibly-haired Diggs gets a perm.) He and Casal together are electric, and I only wish "Blindspotting" didn't so easily distract itself from its central pair.

But there's an upside to the film so eagerly jumping from anguish to slapstick, from social drama to buddy movie. "Blindspotting" is, like the Oakland it so dearly loves, always many things at once. □

## Cardi B leads MTV VMA nods with 10; Beyoncé, Jay-Z nab 8

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — The year of Cardi B continues — this time with 10 MTV Video Music Award nominations.

MTV announced Monday that the white-hot rapper is the most nominated act at this year's show, which returns to New York City's Radio City Music Hall on Aug. 20.

Five of Cardi B's nominations are thanks to her collaboration with Bruno Mars on the upbeat anthem, "Finesse (Remix)." The song's video, inspired by '90s sketch comedy series "In Living Color," will compete for video of the year along with Childish Gambino's



In this Jan. 25, 2018 file photo, Cardi B attends the Warner Music Group pre-Grammy party in New York.

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"This Is America," Drake's "God's Plan," Beyoncé and Jay-Z's "Apes(asterisk)(asterisk)t," Camila Cabel-

lo's "Havana" and Ariana Grande's "No Tears Left to Cry."

Beyoncé and Jay-Z — who

recently released a collaborative album as The Carters — are nominated for eight awards with "Apes(asterisk)(asterisk)t," which was filmed at the Louvre museum in Paris.

Gambino's "This Is America," which tackles racism and gun violence, earned him seven nominations. Drake, who gave away \$1 million dollars to Miami residents in his "God's Plan" clip, also scored seven nods.

Taylor Swift was shut out of the major categories, but did nab three nominations for technical awards: Her No. 1 hit, "Look What You Made Me Do," is up for best art direction, best visual ef-

fects and best editing. Justin Timberlake, whose "Man of the Woods" album has underperformed, earned nominations for best direction ("Say Something" with Chris Stapleton) and best choreography ("Filthy").

The best Latin category comes a year after MTV didn't nominate "Despacito," last year's biggest hit by Luis Fonsi and Daddy Yankee, for any of its main awards.

It caused an outcry and even led actor John Leguizamo to write an editorial for Billboard about Latinos being underrepresented in not just music, but film and TV. □

## TravelLab: Adults take over science museums when night falls

By EMILIANO RODRIGUEZ  
MEGA

Associated Press

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Sometimes, in the middle of the night, nocturnal creatures are allowed to roam the halls of New York's American Museum of Natural History, free from shouting and swarming children. They are adult humans, known to sometimes quietly contemplate science with a cocktail.

"If you go to a natural history museum during the day, it's definitely a space for people who are under 4 feet tall. And that's clear in every way — from the soup they serve at the cafeteria to the height of the label," said Victoria Cain, a museum historian at Northeastern University in Boston. "It's kind of fun to reclaim that space for adults."

On a recent June evening, 175 grown-ups signed up for a slumber party at the New York museum, which has capitalized on the hype created by Ben Stiller's "Night at the Museum" franchise. The museum's first sleepovers were aimed at kids. Then in 2014, people 21 and up were invited to explore its darkened exhibit halls.

The experiment was so popular that other science centers followed suit. Aquariums and museums in Atlanta, Milwaukee, Portland, Oregon, and elsewhere have hosted pajama parties for grown-ups. And they've become a hot ticket, according to Cain.

"When I saw that we could do it and that there was



Visitors at the American Museum of Natural History spend the night under blue whale exhibit in Milstein Hall of Ocean Life during the adult-only sleepover in New York.

Associated Press

also alcohol, we were like, 'Oh my gosh. Someone read our diary,'" said Janine Agarwal, 29, who attended the sleepover at the American Museum of Natural History to celebrate her husband's birthday.

### THE EXPERIENCE

During the night, guests have dinner in a room full of moon rocks and a 15-ton meteorite, and can wander around the 45 permanent exhibition halls. They can also join guided tours, visit the planetarium, meet with curators and chat with museum scientists about their research — all while the city rests.

"I don't think there's any way you'd be able to experience this place in such a special way as doing this kind of overnight," said Giancarlo Bruni, of Toronto,

as he played with the control panel of a full-size submarine. "It's phenomenal." While only adults are allowed, there is still childish fun to be had. Monica Seeböhm and her friend Renee Brown came in hooded T. rex onesies.

"We're always looking for some adventure, and we thought bringing a dinosaur costume was appropriate," Seeböhm said. "We like to dress for the occasion."

Lights go out at 2 a.m. People can sleep in their own sleeping bags or the museum's cots, aligned right below the belly of a 94-foot-long blue whale that hangs from the ceiling of the Hall of Ocean Life. Those who feel restless can get cookies and coffee at the Hall of Planet Earth.

Michael Nedell, 53, recalled being afraid of the whale as a child.

"When I was younger, that blue whale freaked me out. I'd been scared of (it) until I grew into a teenager," he said. "Now I get to sleep under her."

### THE SCIENCE BEHIND IT

Silence greets those who venture into remote exhibits. That stillness makes a difference for visitors hoping to learn something, said biologist John Karavias.

"During the day, you're fighting crowds. You feel like you're being rushed



Visitors sleep under the light of dioramas during the adult-only sleepover at the American Museum of Natural History on Friday, June 22, 2018, in New York.

Associated Press

touched the marine creatures.

Starfish like these depend on a healthy ocean to survive, Karavias explained. But carbon dioxide from the burning of coal and natural gas is making the ocean more acidic. That means sea urchins, mussels, corals and other organisms have a hard time creating their shells or skeletons, which affects their development.

A few floors above, tour guide Arlene Katz taught visitors about animals that glow.

She approached a tank with an eel snuggled in the rocks. Its camouflaged body was hard to pick out from the sandy bottom. But an ultraviolet film made it glow greenish-blue. It's not making its own light, like a firefly does. Instead, it absorbs light and releases it as a different color that's invisible to predators but obvious to other eels.

"It's a hidden language," she explained. "Sometimes you gotta hide and sometimes you gotta show off. They're doing it simultaneously. It's a brilliant solution." Katz said the sleepover is an opportunity for guests to be surprised by nature. "We want people to have so much fun that they almost forget they're learning," she said. "But this is not an amusement park. We are sneaking in a lot of information." □



Janine Agarwal, stands next to a 122-foot-long model of a giant herbivore dinosaur that lived in Argentina 100 million years ago, during adult-only sleepover in New York.

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